This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

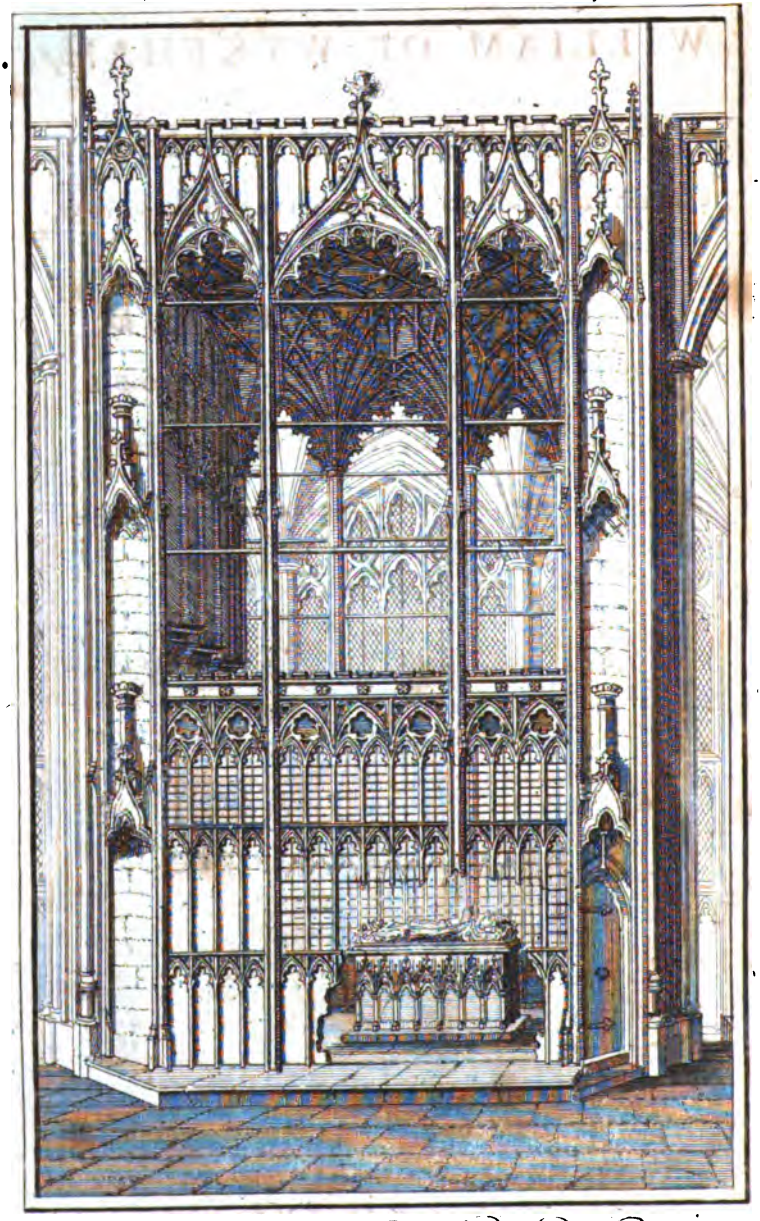
William

Edwin

AN

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY
ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

To front the Title page



Cantaria et Monumentum Willmi de Wykeham
Epi Wint in Ecclesia Cathedrali Winton

J. Taylor Surveyr. delin

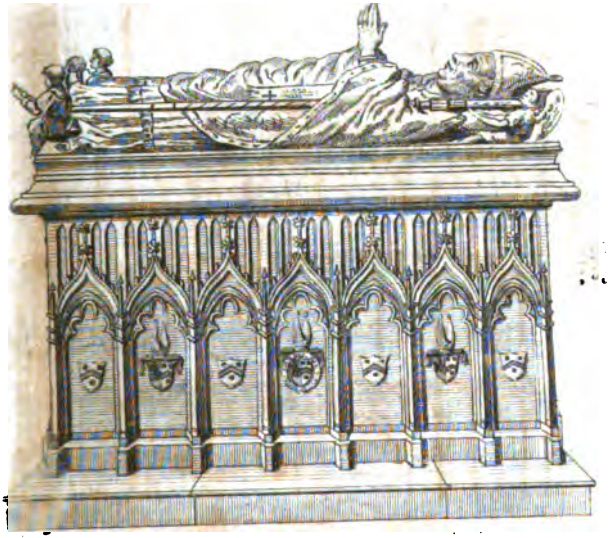
THE LIFE OF
WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM,
BISHOP OF WINCHESTER.

COLLECTED FROM RECORDS, REGISTERS, MANUSCRIPTS, AND OTHER AUTHENTIC EVIDENCES:

BY ROBERT LOWTH, D. D.
NOW LORD BISHOP OF OXFORD.

THE THIRD EDITION, CORRECTED.

QUIQUE SUI MEMORES ALIOS FECERE MERENDO. VIRG.



OXFORD;
AT THE CLARENDON PRESS, MDCCLXXVII.
SOLD BY D. PRINCE;
AND BY J. DODSLEY AND T. CADELL, LONDON.

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY
19000
ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.
1898.

IMPRIMATUR,

GEO. HORNE,

VICE-CAN. OXON.

JAN. 11. 1777.

NEW YORK
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

TO THE RIGHT REVEREND

BENJAMIN,

LORD BISHOP OF WINCHESTER.

MY LORD,

THE great and good Man, of whoſe Life I have given an authentic, however imperfect, account, in the moſt earneſt and ſolemn manner recommended his two Colleges, that is, his Eſtate, his Family, his Children, his dearer Self, to the care and protection of his Succeſſors the Biſhops

of Winchester. I should not act agreeably to his will and intention, if I did not endeavour to obtain the same patronage for his Memory and his Reputation.

Your Lordship hath long executed the Trust thus devolved upon You in such a manner as demands the most grateful acknowlegements of those Societies: You have treated them upon all occasions with all the tenderness of an indulgent Parent; and if at any time the duty of that Trust hath required You to interpose with authority, your decisions have been wholly disinterested and perfectly upright; You have acted just as He, whose Substitute

You

You were, had preſcribed; juſt in every reſpect as He would have acted Himſelf.

But this addreſs, My Lord, is not more neceſſary on account of the Subject, than it is in reſpect of the Author. Your Lordſhip, unſolicited and unaſked, called him from one of thoſe Colleges to a Station of the firſt Dignity in your Dioceſe; and took the earlieſt opportunity of accumulating your favour upon him, and of adding to that Dignity a ſuitable ſupport. Theſe obligations he is now the more ready thus publicly to acknowlege, as he is removed out of the reach of further favours of the like kind. And though he hath relinquiſhed the advantages ſo gene-

rouſly conferred upon him, yet he ſhall always eſteem himſelf highly honoured in having once enjoyed the patronage of the great Advocate of Civil and Religious Liberty.

I am with the greateſt Reſpect and Gratitude,

MY LORD,

Your Lordſhip's

Moſt Obliged

and moſt Obedient Servant,

ROBERT LOWTH.

1758.

THE PREFACE.

THE following collection was begun, and was pretty far advanced, ſeveral years ago, while the author had the happineſs of being a member of one of the Colleges founded by the great Prelate, who is the ſubject of it. It was partly interrupted by purſuits of another kind, and partly deferred in hopes of further opportunities of enlarging his materials; and it is now offered to the public, not as full and complete in any reſpect, but as the whole reſult of his moſt diligent inquiries into a ſubject rendered very obſcure by the darkneſs of the times to which it belongs, and in which he deſpairs of being able to acquire any conſiderable acceſſion of light.

It has long been a common complaint among thoſe, whoſe reſpect aud gratitude has

raiſed in them a curioſity not eaſily ſatisfied with regard to their great Benefactor, that ſo few particulars of the life and actions of ſo eminent a perſon have been with certainty delivered down to us; and that the traces that remain of domeſtic tradition concerning him, are ſo very obſcure and imperfect. Chaundeler * began with this complaint three hundred years ago: by his attempt to write upon the ſubject he has ſhewn, that he did not want a good will; but by his performance he has contributed very little towards removing the obſcurity of which he ſo much complains. Much might have been then done by a diligent inquiry properly conducted; but the moſt able men of that time knew not either what advantages they had, or how to make uſe of them. The age was in itſelf dark; and the civil wars between the houſes of York and Lancaſter not only obſtructed all knowlege, but muſt have ſuppreſſed the memory of the times immedi-

* "Wilhelmi vita ferme ignota eſt, & pauci aut nulli extant "de ea ſcripti libri; quod non ſine admiratione dico, tam ex- "celſum & glorioſum virum a memoria hominum excidere, "cum vix quinquaginta & octo anni ab ejus morte tranſierunt." Chaundeler. MS. in Bibliotheca Coll. Nov. pag. 42.

"Nos quid honoris, quid laudis, quid gloriæ, fundatori noſ- "tro tanto contulimus, qui nihil ferme de beatis ejus moribus "& vita ſollicite exquirentes, proh pudor immemores beneficii, "quaſi morbidum patimur letargum?" Ibid. pag. 4.

ately

ately preceding, and deſtroyed many of the evidences of hiſtory.

In the next century, after the revival of learning, and when it had made conſiderable advances, a more regular and extenſive inquiry into this ſubject was undertaken and purſued with better ſucceſs. Dr. Thomas Martin, chancellor of the dioceſe of Wincheſter under biſhop Gardiner, wrote the life of Wykeham in latin. He ſeems not ſo much to have wanted diligence in collecting proper materials, as care and judgement in digeſting and compoſing them. His account is full of miſtakes: his relation of facts, and the courſe even of public affairs in the moſt important parts, is extremely confuſed and inaccurate: and beſides, were his relation of facts ever ſo accurate, yet he writes in ſo rhetorical and declamatory a ſtyle, that his reader, if he does not preſently throw aſide his book, will be diſpoſed to ſuſpect the truth of what he delivers with ſuch a perpetually laboured exaggeration. This life of Wykeham was firſt publiſhed in 4to in the year 1597, ſeveral years after the death of the author. Perhaps it never was perfectly finiſhed and corrected by him. It was reprinted at Oxford, without any correction or improvement, by Dr. Nicholas, Warden of Wincheſter College, in the year 1690. The republication of this

this work ſeems to indicate the prevailing opinion of that time to have been, and the ſame opinion has continued to prevail ever ſince, that hardly any new light was to be expected upon this ſubject.

Theſe prejudices had not ſuch influence on the author of the preſent inquiry, as to prevent his examining, whether they were well founded or not. He ſoon found, that it would be a very eaſy matter to give a fuller, a more accurate, and more certain account of the life of Wykeham, than had been already given: but whether it would be worth while to attempt to write a new account upon materials, which, though larger and more authentic than had been made uſe of before, were like to be by no means ſufficient to furniſh out a juſt and complete piece of hiſtory; this was a queſtion which he could not ſo ſoon reſolve with himſelf. What determined him at laſt to this undertaking was the examination of Wykeham's Regiſter, which is ſtill preſerved at Wincheſter in the office of the Regiſtrar of the Chancellor of the dioceſe. He ſaw, that this monument of Wykeham's public acts, which is as full, as accurate, and as perfect, as any thing extant in its kind, containing a diary of thirty-ſeven years, would not only itſelf ſupply many important

portant facts; but would ſerve moreover as a teſt, to which other facts and circumſtances might be brought, to be tried by a continued ſeries of ſure and infallible dates, and by ſuch trial to be moſt evidently diſproved or verified: and that this alone, as it had not before been conſulted for any ſuch purpoſe, afforded a foundation, upon which a more firm and more ample ſtructure might be raiſed, than had hitherto been attempted. Having thus gotten a ſure ground-work for his deſign, he uſed his utmoſt diligence in collecting all the beſt and moſt authentic materials, that lay within his knowlege or his reach: and in digeſting and compoſing them, he has chiefly ſtudied clearneſs of method, and plainneſs of narration: his view has not been elegance and ornament, but evidence and truth; nor does he pretend to entertain and amuſe, but merely to inform and explain. He has therefore been careful to affirm nothing poſitively without ſufficient warrant, and to give exact references to his authorities. And that the reader may be able to judge, what degree of credit is due to the ſeveral authorities ſo frequently cited, it will be proper in this place to give him a particular deſcription, and an exact account, of ſuch of them as are not commonly to be met with, or generally known. They here follow under

der the ſeveral titles by which they are referred to.

Regiſtrum Wykeham. The Regiſter of Wykeham before mentioned conſiſts of two very large volumes in folio very fairly written on vellum. The contents of theſe volumes are particularly ſpecified in the general title of the regiſter itſelf, which is as follows.

" Incipit Regiſtrum de actis & geſtis reve-
" rendi Patris domini Wilhelmi de Wikeham
" Dei Gratia Wyntonienſis Epiſcopi, cui de
" epiſcopatu Wyntonienſi per felicis recorda-
" tionis Urbanum divina providentia Papam
" quintum per viam reſervationis fuit pro-
" viſum ſub data Viterbii 11do Idus Julii pon-
" tificatus ſui anno quinto. Et conſecratus
" fuit in eccleſia Londonienſi per venerabilem
" patrem. Dom. Simonem tunc archiepiſ-
" copum Cantuarienſem aſſiſtentibus ſibi ve-
" nerabilibus patribus Dominis Simone Lon-
" don. & Roberto Sareſburien. epiſcopis die
" dominica quæ fuit decima dies menſis Oct.
" an. Dom. MCCCLXVII, prout inferius clare
" patet.

" In prima parte dicti Regiſtri continentur
" Confirmationes Abbatum & Priorum Elec-
" torum, necnon Inſtallationes ac Collationes
" & Inſtitutiones quorumcunq; beneficiorum

eccleſiaſti-

" eccleſiaſticorum per eundem Dom. Wynton.
" epiſcopum tempore ſuo factæ.

" In ſecunda parte inſeruntur Ordines cele-
" brati per dictum Patrem in ſua Dioc. a tem-
" pore conſecrationis ſuæ, & Literæ dimiſſoriæ
" per eum conceſſæ.

" In tertia * parte tranſcribuntur Bullæ Pa-
" pales, mandata Cardinalium, & literæ pro
" Convocatione cleri, Commiſſiones & aliæ
" literæ, & Memoranda tempore ſuo executa,
" & executiones eorundem, & Licencias non
" reſidendi, cum aliis ibidem particulariter
" prout geſta ſunt deſignatis, & una cum Teſ-
" tamentis, & Diſpenſationibus cum illegitime
" natis.

" In quarta parte continentur Brevia Regia
" dicto patri directa, ac Reſponſa, & executio-
" nes, & returna breviam prædictorum."

Tractatus in Veteri Regiſtro Collegii Wintonienſis. This treatiſe is inſerted near the beginning of a Miſcellaneous Volume, being for the moſt part a Regiſter, which is always here referred to under the title of Vet. Regiſtr. Coll. Wint. The title of this treatiſe at length is, " Libellus ſeu Tractatus de proſapia vita &

* Towards the middle of the third part there begins a new numeration of folios. In the references to this part the letters a. and b. denote the 1ſt and 2d numeration.

" geſtis

" geſtis venerabilis patris & Domini Domini
" Wilhelmi Wykeham nuper epiſcopi Wyn-
" ton." At the end is added; " Explicit
" tractatus ſeu libellus de ——— [ut prius]
" ——— editus anno domini MCCCCXXIV, qui
" fuit annus xx poſt obitum ejuſdem patris,
" & regni regis Henrici Sexti annus ſecun-
" dus." This preciſe date pretty well determines the authority of this manuſcript. Martin frequently cites this treatiſe as written by one Robert Heers, or Hereſius, as he calls him, a member of one of Wykeham's Colleges. No one of that name was ever Fellow of either of the Colleges, if we may truſt the regiſters. He probably means Robert Heete, who was admitted ſcholar of Wincheſter College in the year 1401; ſucceeded to New College in 1407; became Fellow of Wincheſter College in 1420; and died in 1432. His regard * and affection for the Founder and the Society appears by his numerous donations to Wincheſter college, in books, plate, &c. and his age agrees perfectly well with his being the author; but I can find no evidence of it. The author calls himſelf " Servus humilis & a-
" lumpnus reverendi Patris domini Wilhelmi
" Wykeham"; and he addreſſes the fellows by

* Vet. Regiſtr. Coll. Wint.

the

the words "Kariſſimi Socii:" ſo that he was certainly fellow of one of the Colleges; and as the treatiſe appears to have been originally inſerted into this regiſter of Wincheſter College, he was moſt probably fellow of that College, when he wrote it; and perhaps was the above-mentioned Robert Heete. Tradition might have delivered him down as ſuch, and his name have been a little miſtaken and altered in paſſing to Martin. The pedigree which I have given in Appendix No. I. Martin attributes to the ſame author. It is indeed in the ſame volume, on the inſide of the cover of the book, at the beginning; but it has no relation to the Treatiſe, and is hardly ſo ancient as that, or the ſuppoſed author's time: yet it could not be much later, as Wykeham's couſin german's daughter was living when it was drawn up.

Brevis Chronica. The whole title is, "Brevis Chronica de ortu vita & geſtis nobilibus "reverendi Domini Wilhelmi de Wykeham "olim Epiſcopi Wynton." MS. in Bibliotheca Coll. Nov. Oxon. It is little more than an abrigement of the above mentioned treatiſe, and ſeems to have been written ſoon after it. It has been publiſhed by Wharton in the Second Volume of his Anglia Sacra, who has by miſtake aſcribed it to Thomas Chaundeler.

Chaundeler.

Chaundeler. "Collocutionum de laudabili "vita & moribus & chriſtiana perfectione "Wilhelmi de Wykeham. Auctore Thoma "Chaundeler utriuſque Collegii Cuſtode, dein "Oxon. poſtea Wellenſi Cancellario." MS. in Bibliotheca Coll. Nov. in the ſame volume with the foregoing. This volume belonged to Thomas de Beckynton, Biſhop of Bath and Wells, to whom Chaundeler addreſſed and preſented his Dialogues. The Dialogues, though they are very long, afford but little hiſtorical matter; this the Author has chiefly from the Short Chronicle, which he often cites as § of good authority. He ſays it was ſcarce fifty-eight years from the death of Wykeham to the time when he wrote, which plainly determines it to the beginning of the year 1462.

MS. Coll. Wint. This Manuſcript, in ſmall quarto, conſiſts of two parts written at different times. One of them contains chiefly a taxation of Biſhopricks, and other Eccleſiaſtical Benefices; and particularly of thoſe of the

§ "Et ne meo ſolum credar confiſus ingenio, aut quæque "arroganter præſumere quæ probare non valeam, ſuſcitate quid "in Brevi quadam & prius memorata Chronica de eo ſcriptum "viderim." Chaundeler, pag. 49.

Dioceſe

Dioceſe of Wincheſter †. This was written in the time of Adam de Orleton, (as appears from page 21, and 23.) who was Biſhop of Wincheſter from A. D. 1333, to 1345. It belonged to Wykeham himſelf, and was by him given to his College at Wincheſter, as appears by the following article in Vet. Regiſtr. Coll. Wint.

"Item 1 liber dat. Colleg. per Dominum "Fundatorem, in quo continentur taxationes "omnium eccleſiarum in ſingulis dioc. per to- "tam Angliam, qui fuerat in cuſtodia Jo- "hannis Exham Execut. Domini Thomæ "Aylward; modo in manibus Cuſtodis."

To this were afterwards prefixed a few additional leaves, containing an account of the life of Wykeham, and eſpecially of his donations and charities. It ſeems to have been written

† Of the Benefices in the Biſhop of Wincheſter's patronage, the then real value, as well as the taxation, is given in this MS. This part is curious; and may be of uſe in the reſolution of ſeveral queſtions relating to thoſe times. Thus, for inſtance, in a matter that relates to the preſent ſubject: The taxation of the Biſhoprick of Wincheſter was at that time, according to the MS. 2977 l. 15 s. 10 d. If we may ſuppoſe it to have borne the ſame proportion to the real value, as the ſum of the taxation of the Benefices there given to the ſum of their real value, that is, as 2353 ½ marks to 4227 ½ marks; the real value of the Biſhoprick of Wincheſter in the time of Adam de Orleton muſt have been 5345 l. ⅘ nearly: at large, we may be allowed to reckon it above 5000 l. per annum.

soon after Wykeham's death, by one who knew him personally, and had access to the accounts of his Stewards.

By the foregoing article of the Winchester College Register it appears, that the book, to which it is prefixed, was in the custody of Dr. Thomas Aylward; he was Rector of Havant, and one of Wykeham's Executors, by which means the book seems to have come into his hands: and it continued in his hands till he died. Perhaps he might have added to it this short account of his friend and patron; but whoever was the author, it seems at least to be more ancient than the Short Chronicle, or the Treatise; and, as far as it goes, to be the most authentic account of Wykeham that is extant. Chaundeler mentions this MS. as what he had had some time before in his hands, and by memory mentions several particulars that are contained in it. "* Utinam a me semel visam "cartulam concederetur intueri rursum; illam "loquor, quam nostri Fundatoris laudibus ple-"nam, & christianissimis quibusdam ejus in-"scriptam operibus, in Collegii Beatæ Mariæ "Winton. Thesauro & vidi & legi. Sed cum "Wentani Collegii præsiderem Custos, pretiosi "illius inventi thesauri indignum me arbitra-

* Chaundeler, pag. 57.

"bar

"bar cuſtodem; ex de re Domino Wilhelmo "[Wayneflete] Epiſcopo jam Wynton. cuſtodi- "endum ſecretius, quid rogo dicerem, an re- "petii, an obtuli? Ibi de refocillatione vi- "gilati quatuor pauperum, quos a ſuſcepto "primum epiſcopatu quotidiano more ſervave- "rat: ibi de ſubſidiis, vectigalibus, tributis, "rebuſque hujuſmodi exactis, vel Regi Ang- "lie debitis, quæ & quotiens pro ſuis tenentu- "bus pius pater exſolveret: ibi de cordis "compunctione, de ipſius in Deum devotiſ- "ſima mentis elevatione, intente adeo, at quam "ſepe, &, ſi bene recolo, ſemper, in audien- "dis miſſis vel celebrandis amantiſſime fleret."

MS. Coll. Nov. This manuſcript in folio contains, I. "Controverſia inter Dominum "Wilhelmum de Wykeham & Magiſtros Hoſ- "pitalis Sanctæ Crucis prope Wynton. II. In- "junctiones factæ Priori & Conventui Eccleſiæ "Cathedralis Wynton. poſt tertiam viſitatio- "nem Domini;" † and in like manner, Injunctions to all the Religious Houſes of the Auguſtine and Benedictine Orders throughout the Dioceſe of Winchester. Harpefield takes notice of theſe Injunctions, but, writing from

† A very fair Copy of theſe Injunctions to the Prior and Convent of Winchester, perhaps more perfectly finiſhed, is contained in MS. Harleian. N° 358.

his memory, he gives no very exact account of them. Martin repreſents them, as a regular treatiſe of eccleſiaſtical diſcipline and the monaſtic life: he gueſſed ſo from Harpsfield's account, and from what he was told were the three firſt words of the firſt Injunction, "Paſtorem vigilare oportet;" for he had never ſeen them. This MS. alſo belonged to Wykeham himſelf; for the Injunctions are the original draughts corrected. It came afterward into the hands of Robert Shirborn, Maſter of St. Croſs Hoſpital, afterwards Biſhop of Chicheſter. The marginal notes throughout the book are in his hand writing, as appears by the note at the beginning in the ſame hand; viz. "Ro. Shirborn cuſtos fuit iſtius hoſpitalis an. "r. H. vii. viiivo, nono, decimo. & inchoavit "undecimum, de reſiduo diſponat Deus."

MS. penes Dom. Epiſcopum Wint. A MS. in ſmall 4to, containing 137 folios, conſiſting of copies of Records relating to the Hoſpital of St. Croſs: communicated by the Right Reverend the Lord Biſhop of Wincheſter. It was written in the year 1389, as appears from fol. 22; at which time John de Campeden was Maſter of the Hoſpital: probably it was written by his direction, and belonged to him; for towards the end there are ſeveral inſtruments

inſerted

inſerted relating to the Rectory of Chiriton, and one at the beginning containing the boundaries of that Pariſh, of which he was alſo at the ſame time Rector: whereas there is very little elſe, but what concerns St. Croſs only. By the help of this MS. ſome few corrections and additions have been made in this ſecond Edition *; chiefly in Sect. III. The Title of it is as follows: "Liber iſte continet in parte "copias cartarum, bullarum, rentalium, cuſ-"tumariorum, evidentiarum, libertatum hoſ-"pitalis ſive domus elimoſinarie Ste Crucis in "Sparkeforde juxta civitatem Wynton. quam "fundavit & dotavit bone memorie quondam "Henricus Wynton. Epiſcopus dictus Bleſens. "frater Regis Stephani nuper Regis Anglie."

MS. Harleian. N° 1616, in the Britiſh Muſeum. A MS. in 8vo. containing 128 pages, conſiſting of copies of Records relating to St. Croſs Hoſpital, which are for the moſt part the ſame with thoſe in the preceding MS.; but not all that are there: and on the other hand, having ſome things that are not there. It was written before the year 1386; as appears from ſome additions in the vacant leaves at the beginning, (pag. 3.) of the ſame hand with thoſe in the Biſhop of Wincheſter's MS. It pro-

* 1759.

bably belonged likewise to John de Campeden, he that time Master.

MS. Harleian. N° 6217. A paper book in folio containing 29 leaves. It is intitled, (by a late hand) "An Historicall Relation of certain passages about the end of K. Edward the 3d, and of his death;" without name or date: the hand writing about two hundred years old. It appears to be a Translation from the Latin of an earlier age: for the writer, where he doubts of the sense of his Author, or of the propriety of his own expression, drawing a line under his own words, or leaving a blank space in his text, sets down the Latin words in the margin; as concerning Edward the 3d's death, "the disease of " (in the margin) "*infirmitas.*" And the Author seems to speak sometimes, as if he lived in or near the time, of which he writes; as in the following reflections on the death of the Prince of Wales: "Truly unless God (whoe defended hym in "battayle, and *hayth now* taken hym from this "worlde, perchaunce that we shoulde put our "truste more confidently in God) holde under "hys blessed hand, leaft the miserable Englishe "men be trodden downe; yt ys to be feared, "that our enemyes, whoe compass us on everye "syde, will rage upon us even unto utter de-"struction;

"struction; and will take our place and "cuntrye. Arise, Lorde, and helpe us, and "defende us for thy names saike." The same may be observed in some other passages, which are quoted from it in the Notes. It seems too to have been written *recentibus odiis*, with all the acrimony of fresh resentment, by the severity with which the Duke of Lancaster, Alice Perrers, and all of that party, are treated. It is only an extract or part of some large historical work; for it begins abruptly, "The nyghte "following"—; and it treats of these transactions more amply and particularly, than any of the common accounts of those times. What degree of credit is due to this anonymous Historian, is left to the Reader's judgement to determine. He will find his testimony impartially cited, where it seemed material; as well when it tends to invalidate the Author's opinion, as when it confirms it.

Liber H. Coll. Wint. An ancient leger-book belonging to Winchester College, marked with the letter H; containing records and evidences of various kinds, relating to the first foundation and endowment of the College.

Rot. Parl. The Rolls of Parliament preserved in the Tower of London. A complete

copy of them, with ſeveral other MSS. was given to the library of Queen's College in Oxford, by Sir Joſeph Williamſon, Secretary of ſtate in Charles the IId's time. By the favour of that learned Society, the author had the uſe of as many volumes of them, as he had occaſion to conſult.

Rot. Pat. Tanner. The learned and moſt accurate antiquary Dr. Tanner, late Biſhop of St. Aſaph, made extracts from the Patent Rolls in the Tower of Grants to William of Wykeham, which he communicated, in the year 1732, to Dr. Comed then Warden of New College. Theſe extracts of the Biſhop are cited, as above, with his name added.

MS. Rymer. Beſide the collection of Records publiſhed by Rymer, there was a great number of Records tranſcribed and digeſted by him into proper order, but not publiſhed, being ſuch as were ſuppoſed to be of leſs general uſe. This Manuſcript collection conſiſts of fifty-nine large volumes in folio; which were deſigned to be repoſited in the Cotton library. The contents of each volume, and the titles of the ſeveral Records in each, are given at the end of the XVIIth volume of the printed collection. Theſe ſeem to have been wholly neg-

lected

lected by our late hiſtorians, though with regard to perſonal hiſtory, and incidental matters, they may perhaps be of equal uſe with the printed volumes. They were ſome years ago in the hands of Samuel Burroughs, Eſq; Maſter in Chancery, and one of the Truſtees for the Cotton library. They are now to be found in their proper place in the Britiſh Muſeum.

There are hardly any of the reſt of the authorities, but what will be ſufficiently known and underſtood of themſelves, as they are referred to.

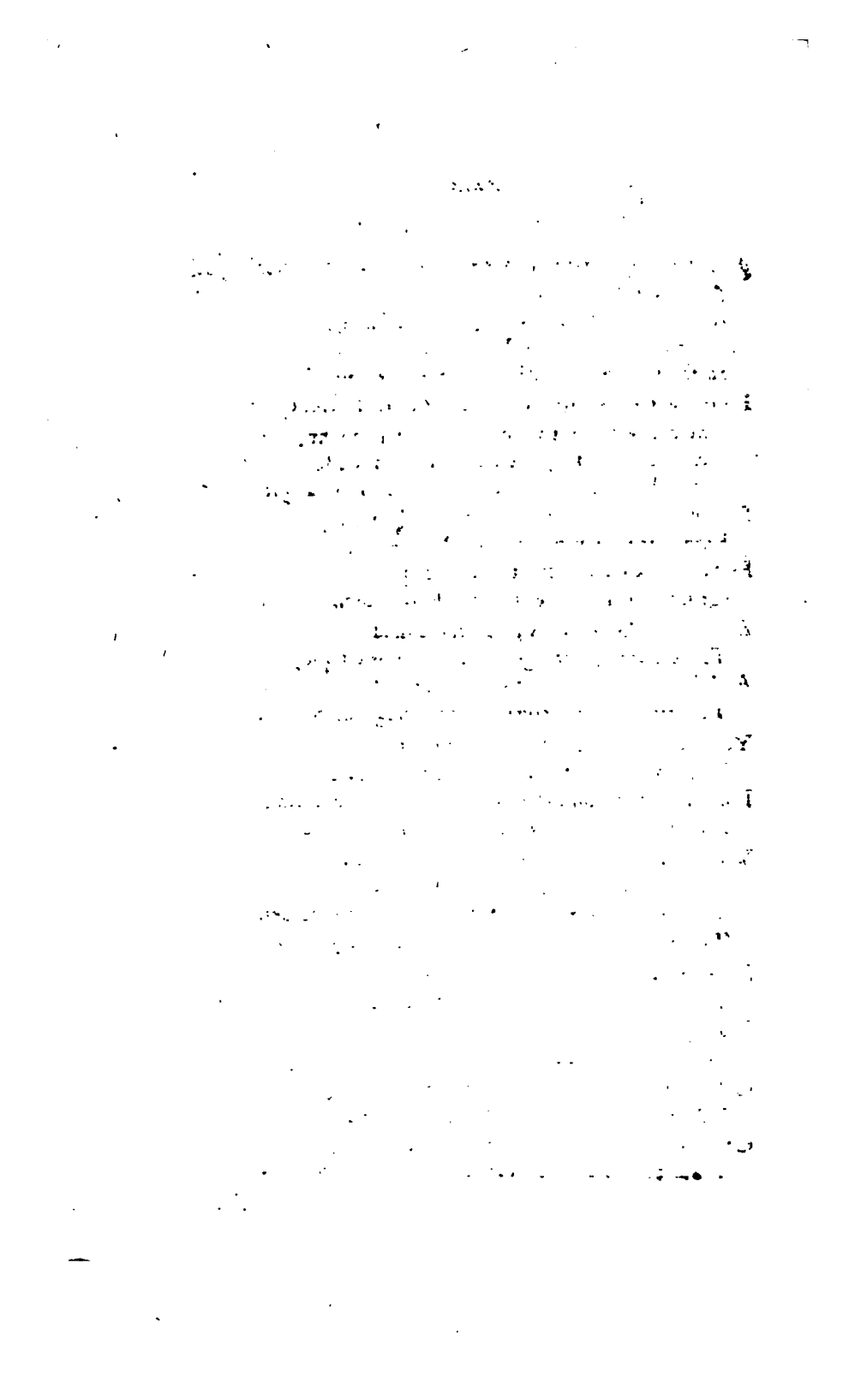
Though no inconſiderable progreſs has been here already made in collecting materials from the Public Records; namely, from the Parliament Rolls and the Patent Rolls, which may well be ſuppoſed to have afforded more, and thoſe of more uſe and importance, than any others are likely to do; and in ſome degree from all the reſt, by means of the collections of Rymer, both printed and manuſcript; yet it is not to be doubted, but that a further ſearch in the ſeveral public offices would ſupply particular facts hitherto unknown, that might give new light, as well into the general ſtate of the affairs of thoſe times, as into Wykeham's perſonal hiſtory. In this perſuaſion, the author ſtill had it in his view to try what might be

done

done in this way; but he has never yet found sufficient leisure or opportunity for an undertaking, which requires much of both, and which perhaps had better be wholly let alone, than negligently and slightly performed; as a superficial and imperfect examination would probably have little other effect, than to discourage all attempts of the like kind for the future. Much less can he think in his present situation of ever being able properly to execute such a design. He must therefore content himself with recommending it to the two learned and flourishing Societies of Wykeham's foundation, as a matter which principally and nearly concerns them, and which he is sure they will be ready to promote to the utmost of their power, to consider of the properest method of supplying this deficiency. Perhaps a suitable encouragement on their part, both as a support of the expence, and a reward of the labour, of such a search, might induce some person of skill and experience to undertake it. At present he hopes they will receive with candour and indulgence these his endeavours; which were incited by no other motive than his earnest desire of expressing, in the best manner he was able, his sense of the great obligations, which he has to their great Founder and to Them. The ground at least is cleared,

a founda-

a foundation laid, and ſomething of a plan given; and the materials here collected and diſpoſed with all the exactneſs he is capable of, will ſo far be of uſe, conſidered only as materials. If to theſe any conſiderable acceſſion ſhould ever be made from the ſtores above mentioned, he is perſuaded there will not be wanting in thoſe Societies, ſuch as will be ready and able to make the proper uſe of them, and to ſet them forth to the beſt advantage; that ſo the hiſtory of their pious and munificent Founder may be one day rendered in every reſpect as complete, as the nature and condition of the ſubject, ſo long too much neglected, will now admit.



O LOWTH, whilſt WYKEHAM's various worth you trace,
And bid to diſtant times his Annals ſhine,
Indulge another Bard of WYKEHAM's race
In the fond wiſh to add his name to thine.
From the ſame fount, with rev'rence let me boaſt,
The claſſic ſtreams with early thirſt I caught;
What time, they ſay, the Muſes revel'd moſt,
When BIGG preſided, and when BURTON taught.
But the ſame fate, which led me to the ſpring,
Forbad me further to purſue the ſtream:
Perhaps as kindly; for, as Sages ſing,
Of Chance and Fate full idly do we deem.
And ſure in GRANTA's philoſophic ſhade
Truth's genuine image beam'd upon my ſight;
And ſlow-eyed Reaſon lent her ſober aid
To form, deduce, compare, and judge aright.
Yes, ye ſweet fields, beſide your oſier'd ſtream
Full many an Attic hour my youth enjoy'd,
Full many a friendſhip form'd, life's happieſt dream,
And treaſur'd many a bliſs which never cloy'd.
Yet may the Pilgrim, o'er his temperate fare
At eve, with pleaſing recollection ſay,
'Twas the freſh morn which ſtrung his nerves to bear
The piercing beam, and uſeful toils of day:
So let me ſtill with filial love purſue
The nurſe and parent of my infant thought,
From whence the colour of my life I drew,
When BIGG preſided, and when BURTON taught.
O Names by me rever'd!——till memory die,
Till my deaf ear forget th' enchanting flow
Of verſe harmonious, ſhall my mental eye
Trace back old time, and teach my breaſt to glow.

Peace

Peace to that honour'd Shade, whose mortal frame
  Sleeps in the bosom of its parent earth;
Whilst the freed Soul, that boasts celestial flame,
  Perhaps now triumphs in a nobler birth:
Perhaps with WYKEHAM, from some blissful bower,
  Applauds thy labours; or prepares the wreath
For BURTON's generous toil.—Th' insatiate Power
  Extends his deathful sway o'er all that breathe;
Nor aught avails it, that the virtuous Sage
  Forms future Bards, or WYKEHAMS yet to come;
Nor aught avails it, that his green old age,
  From youth well spent, may seem t'elude the tomb;
For BURTON too must fall. And o'er his urn,
  Whilst Science hangs her sculptur'd trophies round,
The letter'd tribes of half an age shall mourn,
  Whose lyres he strung, and added sense to sound.
Nor shall his candid ear, I trust, disdain
  This artless tribute of a feeling mind;
And thou, O LOWTH, shalt own the grateful strain,
  Mean tho' it flow, was virtuously design'd.
For 'twas thy work inspir'd the melting mood
  To feel and pay the sacred debt I ow'd;
And the next virtue to bestowing good,
  Thou know'st, is gratitude for good bestow'd.

W. WHITEHEAD,
Poet Laureat.

1759.

The

The CONTENTS.

SECTION I. *FROM the Birth of Wykeham to his being made Biſhop of Wincheſter.* Page 1.

SECT. II. *From the time of his being made Biſhop of Wincheſter to the laſt year of Edward the Third.* p. 35.

SECT. III. *Eccleſiaſtical affairs during the ſame time.* p. 58.

SECT. IV. *His troubles in the laſt year of Edward the Third.* p. 88.

SECT. V. *Civil affairs during the former part of the Reign of Richard the Second.* p. 136.

SECT. VI. *Eccleſiaſtical affairs during the Reign of Richard the Second.* p. 162.

SECT.

SECT. VII. *Civil affairs during the latter part of the Reign of Richard the Second.* p. 200.

SECT. VIII. *From the beginning of Henry the Fourth's Reign to the Death of Wykeham.* p. 245.

SECT. IX. *An Examination and Confutation of ſeveral things, that have been publiſhed to his diſcredit.* p. 275.

APPENDIX.

THE

THE

LIFE

OF

WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM.

SECTION I.

From the Birth of Wykeham to his being made Biſhop of Wincheſter.

THAT natural curioſity, which leads us to inquire into the particular circumſtances of the lives of ſuch as have in any way made themſelves greatly eminent, cannot be more properly or laudably employed, than in reviving the memory of thoſe illuſtrious perſons, who have more eſpecially diſtinguiſhed themſelves by their beneficence and public ſpirit; by their endeavours to do good to their own age, and to poſterity; to their country, and to mankind. In this caſe at leaſt, it is not

merely the effect of an idly inquiſitive diſpoſition, nor does it propoſe to itſelf only an empty amuſement: it partakes in ſome meaſure of the ſame generous principle, which engages its attention; perhaps it ariſes from a mind poſſeſſed with a ſenſe of benefits received, and is no improper exertion of that love, reſpect, and gratitude, which is due to the author of them. The ſubject of the following pages, may, I preſume, in this reſpect, merit the attention of ſuch as have a due regard for the memory of a man, who, beſide his high ſtation and great abilities in public affairs, was an eminent example of generoſity and munificence; and much more of thoſe, who have felt the beneficial influence of his liberality, who have been, or actually are, partakers of his bounty. It is indeed principally for the ſake of theſe latter that the preſent inquiry hath been undertaken: it will be purſued with that care, and fidelity, and ſtrict regard to truth, which is due to the public in general; and for the ſatisfaction of theſe in particular, even with what may perhaps be eſteemed by others a minute and ſcrupulous exactneſs; in confidence, that their veneration for the name of Wykeham, their generous Benefactor, will make every thing that relates to him intereſting, and will not ſuffer them

them to think any particularities jejune, trifling, or insignificant, which in any wise tend to rescue his memory from oblivion, to verify his history, or to vindicate his character.

WILLIAM WYKEHAM, or OF WYKEHAM, (for [1] he uses both ways of expressing his name, but commonly the latter,) was [2] born at Wykeham in Hampshire, in the year MCCCXXIV, in the 18th year of Edward the Second: consequently after the 7th of July, from which the years of Edward the Second begin; and before the 27th of September of the same year; for on that day of the year MCCCCIV, on which he died, he is said to have been fully [3], or above [4] eighty years old.

It is commonly supposed, that he took his name from the place of his birth, according to

[1] He calls himself William Wykeham, not De Wykeham, in His Will; as also sometimes in his own Register: he is so called in Regist. Edyngdon; and in Rotuli Computûs Coll. Nov. Oxon. an. 1381; and in Leger-Book of the Church of Winchester, N° I. very often. "A qua villa" (says Chaundeler, MS in Biblioth. Coll. Nov. pag. 15.) "cognomen est sortitus, "ut etiam a plerisque Wilhelmus Wykeham appellaretur:" not De Wykeham; as I suppose he means.

[2] Brevis Chronica, & Chaundeler.

[3] Tractatus in Vet. Regist. Coll. Wint.

[4] Brevis Chronica, & Chaundeler, p. 54.

a cuſtom much in uſe in thoſe times, when ſurnames were not ſo appropriated to families, as to deſcend regularly from father to ſon, as they now do. There are however ſome circumſtances, which at firſt ſight ſeem to afford us ſufficient reaſon to doubt of this. We meet with ſeveral of his kindred, living at the ſame time with him, who bore the ſame name: Nicholas Wykeham, [5] Archdeacon of Wincheſter, and Warden of New College, whom [6] he expreſsly calls his kinſman. Richard de Wykeham [7], Warden of St. Nicholas's Hoſpital, Portſmouth; the ſame probably with Richard Wykeham, called likewiſe his kinſman in the Rolls of Accompt of New College in the year 1377: John Wykeham [8], Rector

5 Nicholas Wykeham, Clerk, Prebendary of Mapledurham in the church of Boſeham, Chicheſter Dioceſe, in 1370; Archdeacon of Wincheſter, 1372; which he reſigned, and became Archdeacon of Wilts, 1382; Warden of St. Nicholas's Hoſpital, Portſmouth, on the death of Richard Wykeham, and Rector of Witteney, Lincoln Dioceſe, being then L.L.D. 1378; Warden of New College Oxford, 1379; reſigned it, 1389. Ordained Accolite and Subdeacon, 1379; Prieſt, 1383. He was alſo Prebendary of Tymberbury in the church of Romeſaye, Wincheſter Dioceſe. Regiſtr. Wykeham.

6 See Appendix, N° X.

7 Regiſtr. Wykeham.

8 Ordained Accolite and Subdeacon in 1395; at that time Rector of Stockton, Sarum Dioceſe; afterward of Mapledurham, (or Buriton) Caulborne, Brighteſton, and South-Waltham, ſucceſſively. Regiſtr. Wykeham.

of

of Mapledurham in the dioceſe of Wincheſter; who is mentioned in his will among his kindred, and was [9] admitted as ſuch Fellow of his College. Add to theſe William, Thomas, and John Wykeham, admitted [1] likewiſe Fellows of his College in the years 1387, 1390, and 1395 reſpectively: who [2] were his great nephews, the ſons of his niece Alice, the wife of William Perot, and took his ſurname inſtead of their father's. His kinſman John Fyvyan, [3] paid him the ſame compliment, and relinquiſhed his own name for that of Wykeham. Both theſe inſtances ſeem to make it ſtill more probable, that it was ſomething more than a caſual name taken from the place of his

9 Regiſtr. Coll. Nov.

1 Ibid.

2 See Appendix, N° I. II. III. and IV. William the eldeſt brother probably died before the Biſhop without iſſue, upon which Thomas the ſecond brother became the Biſhop's heir: John the youngeſt died Fellow of New College, Civilian, in the year 1398. Regiſtr. Coll. Nov.

3 Call'd Johannes Wykeham, aliter dictus Fyvyan, Regiſtr. Wykeham, Part I. fol. 121. In the year 1379, and 1380, he was ordained Accolite and Subdeacon by the name of John Fyvyan only; afterward went by the name of Wykeham. He was Rector of Eabberbury, then of Crondale upon his reſignation of the former; afterward of Broughton, Dioc. Linc. preſented by William of Wykeham as Patron. Regiſtr. Wykeham. He appears to have been his kinſman by Regiſtr. Coll. Nov. and in his Will is placed among his kindred.

birth. He mentions his Father and Mother only by their Chriſtian names, [4] John and Sybill: if their ſurname had been different from that which he bore himſelf, it would have been natural, if not neceſſary, to have mentioned it; if the ſame, there was plainly no occaſion of expreſſing it, as implied of courſe.

I meet with a Note in the Firſt Regiſter of New College[5], which if it does not confirm this opinion, that Wykeham was properly his family-name[6], yet ſhews at leaſt that it is not altogether new and unprecedented. It is in the following terms: "Hyt ys welle to be prooved "that wyllyam wykeham bysshope off wynton "was borne in a towne in Hampchere called "wykeham, and that hys graunt fathers name "was wykeham, although there bathe bin "ſome boute of hys fathers name." The

[4] In the Statutes of both his Colleges. They are ſo called likewiſe in Brev. Chron. and in Tractat. in Vet. Regiſtr. Coll. Wint. and in MS. Coll. Wint.

[5] At the bottom of the laſt page of the book, called Liber Albus. The other entries of the ſame page bear date 1456, and 1457. At the ſide of this note is written in another hand, "An "old note concerning our Founder." This laſt handwriting appears in ſeveral parts of the Book, in the margin, &c. and is Warden Culpeper's, or ſome other perſon's in his time, (that is, between 1573 and 1599) as it is plain from folio 2.

[6] Harpsfield, who was educated in both Wykeham's Colleges, is of this opinion: See his Hiſt. Eccleſiaſt. Anglican. p. 550.

hand-

handwriting, as well as the expreſſion, of this Note carries with it evident marks of age; and yet, upon due conſideration, I do not think it to be of ſufficient antiquity, to give it any great weight in determining the preſent queſtion.

And after all, we muſt have a care, leſt, being prepoſſeſſed with notions taken from our own uſages, we ſhould be led into error in our reaſonings upon thoſe of former times. If we conſider the uncertain ſtate of family-names at the time of the birth of Wykeham, we ſhall not think it ſtrange, that there ſhould be ſuch doubt with regard to the ſurname of his family; or even if it ſhould appear, that he had properly no family-name at all. Surnames were introduced into England by the Normans at the Conqueſt: "But certain it is," ſays Camden, that as the better ſort, even from the "Conqueſt, by little and little, took ſurnames; "ſo they were not ſettled among the common "people fully until about the time of Edward "the Second." As we muſt allow Wykeham to have been what the Romans called novus homo, ſo with regard to his ſurname, he might perhaps be ſtrictly and literally the firſt of his family.

Upon the whole, therefore, I cannot help

[7] See Camden's Remains, p. 106, &c.

giving credit to the teſtimony of a [8] Pedigree of Wykeham's family, preſerved in an ancient Regiſter of Wincheſter College, which mentions his father by the name of John Longe; which, whether it was the proper ſurname of the family, or a perſonal bye-name given him on account of his ſtature, (in which caſe his true ſurname might be Aas, the ſame that was borne by his [9] brother Henry,) it is neither material nor poſſible to determine. This Pedigree muſt be allowed to be of good authority; as it was drawn up in the next age to that of Wykeham himſelf, as it is in many particulars confirmed by collateral evidence, and as there does not appear any reaſon to queſtion the truth and exactneſs of any part of it. Whatever elſe has been alleged on this ſubject ought to be of little account: it is a point that muſt be determined by authority and evidence; and the authority of this Pedigree ſeems ſufficient to maintain itſelf againſt all arguments whatſoever, that are only founded on probable ſuppoſition and conjecture.

His parents [1] were perſons of good reputation and character; but in mean circumſtances.

[8] See Appendix, N° I.

[9] See alſo Appendix, N° XVIII.

[1] Tractat. in Vet. Reg. Coll. Wint. Brev. Chron. & Chaundeler, p. 15.

It

It has been ſaid, that [2] he himſelf, or ſome of his anceſtors were of ſervile condition: that is, had been Tenants in Villenage, or had held lands by certain cuſtoms and ſervices owed to the Lord; which is conſidered as a kind of Servitude or Bondage by our Laws, and which was at that time, for the moſt part, the ſtate and condition of the bulk of the common people of England. However, of his mother [3], we are particularly informed, that ſhe was well-born, and of a gentleman's family: which is moreover confirmed by the Pedigree before-mentioned. The [4] number of his contemporary relations, occaſionally mentioned, and upon undoubted authority, is ſurpriſingly great, conſidering the diſtance of time, and the obſcurity in which this part of his hiſtory lies; and ſeems to prove, that he was not of ſuch very low extraction as ſome authors have repreſented him. They appear in general to have been perſons of reputable

[2] See below the quotations from Robert Glover and John Malverne.

[3] "Cujus ortûs primordia ex parte matris nomine Sibillæ ge-"neroſa proſapia natalibus legis [forſan, legitimis] inſignivit: "pater vero ejus, Johannes nomine, progenitorum libertate do-"tatus, honeſtum moribus & geſturis ſe omnibus exhibebat." Tractat in Vet. Reg. Coll. Wint. It is afterwards ſaid of both his parents, that they were "honeſti genere." Ibid.

[4] See Appendix, N°. XVIII.

condition,

condition, and of a middle ſtation in life. On the other hand, I ſee no reaſon for rating his family higher: I am even inclined to think, that he himſelf diſclaimed all further pretenſions. The celebrated Motto which he added to his Arms, (of which [5] probably he might have received a grant when he began to riſe in the world,) I imagine, was intended by him to intimate ſomething of this kind: Manners maketh man: the true meaning of which, as he deſigned it, I preſume to be, though it has commonly been underſtood otherwiſe, That a man's real worth is to be eſtimated, not from

5 "The ſaid Biſhoppe bare his Armes diverſly at two ſondry "tymes, as the Seals thereof ſhewed by Sir Richard Fynes, teſ- "tify. Before he was Biſhoppe, when as yet he was but Arch- "deacon of Lincolne, he ſealed but with one cheveron in his "Armes between three roſes: but after, when he was advanced "to the Biſhoppricke, he ſealed with two cheverons between "three roſes: and ſo ar generally known to this day to be his "without contradiction.——It hath been demaunded of me by "the ſayd learned menne, whether the Armes which the ſaid "Biſhoppe uſed were gyven unto him in reſpect of his dignity "Epiſcopall, or were boren by him before, as receyved from "his auncеſtry and race. Whereunto I coulde not anſwer affir- "matyvely, becauſe I had never ſeen matter of the firſt allow- "ance of them. But havynge read certyne learned wryters opi- "nions of the ſayd Biſhoppe, which do agree in this, that he "was *humilis conditionis*, and that he was called Wykeham, *a* "*loco unde natus eſt, & non a parentibus*: as it is alſo affirmed in "the chapter of his Lyf before alleadged, wherein alſo his fa- "ther called John is ſayd to be *progenitorum libertate dotatus*: and

the

the outward and accidental advantages of birth, rank, and fortune, but from the endowments of his mind, and his moral qualifications. In this ſenſe it bears a proper relation to his arms, and contains a juſt apology for thoſe enſigns of his newly acquired dignity. Conſcious to himſelf that his claim to honour is unexceptionable, as founded upon truth and reaſon, he in a manner makes his appeal to the world; alleging, that neither high birth, to which he makes no pretenſions, nor high ſtation, upon which he does not value himſelf, but

"Virtue alone is true Nobility."

" he himſelf by Randulph Monke of Cheſtre, being noted to be " *libertinus, vel a patre libertino natus:* I was moved to thinke, " as I told them, that thoſe Armes came not to him by deſcent. " And agayne, beholdinge the Armes ſometyme with one and " then after with two cheverons, *quæ quidem ſigna per Carpentarios* " *& domorum factores olim portabantur*, as Nicholas Upton wryteth, " and comparing them to the quality of the berar, who is ſayd " to have had his chiefe preferment for his ſkill in Architecture, " *Erat enim regi Edwardo* III. *in principio a fabricis eo quod erat* " *ingenioſus & architectura dilectatus*, as Dr. Caius maketh men- " tion in his bookes *de antiquitate Cantabrigienſis Academiæ:* I " was alſo induced to thinke per conjecturam Heraldicam, that " the Biſhop himſelf was the firſt berar of them." Report of Robert Glover, Somerſet Herald, to Lord Treaſurer Burghley, concerning the diſpute between Sir Richard Fiennes and Humphrey Wickham, Eſq; dated March 1572. MS. Ant. Wood. N° XXVIII. in Muſæo Aſhmoleano Oxon.

It

It ſeems to be agreed on all hands, that his [6] parents were in ſuch narrow circumſtances, that they could not afford to give their ſon a liberal education. However, this deficiency was ſupplied by ſome generous patron, who maintained him at ſchool at [7] Wincheſter, where he was inſtructed in grammatical learning. Here he gave early proofs of his [8] piety and his diligence. It has alſo been ſuppoſed, rather from a common tradition, than from any authentic account that I can meet with, that Wykeham's firſt and great Benefactor was Nicholas Uvedale Lord of the Manor of Wykeham, and Governor of Wincheſter Caſtle, an officer of great note in thoſe days. After he had gone through his ſchool education, he was taken into his patron's family, and became his Secretary [9]. That

6 Tractat. in Vet. Reg. Coll. Wint. Brev. Chron. Chaundeler, ibid.

7 MS. Coll. Wint.

8 Ibid. & Tractat. in Vet. Reg. Coll. Wint.

9 In the Rolls of Accounts of Winchester College, under the years 1398, 1399, and 1400, in the article of Commons, after the ſeventy Scholars mention is made of duo filii Uvedalli. They are diſtinguiſhed with an allotment of xiv^{d}. weekly for their Commons; which is equal to the allowance of a Chaplain: that of a Scholar is viii^{d}. In the year 1400, ſeventy-one, ſeventy-two, and ſeventy-three Scholars are often mentioned as in Commons. The Founder uſed to admit, by peculiar favour, the ſons of Gentlemen who were his friends, to the advantages of his School, and allotted Commons for their maintenance; as in

he

he was Secretary to the Conſtable of Wincheſter Caſtle, is all that we find mentioned in the moſt ancient [1] writers. He is ſaid to have been afterwards recommended by Uvedale to Edyngdon [2] Biſhop of Wincheſter, and by both to have been made known to King Edward the Third.

The later Writers of Wykeham's life have generally mentioned his removing from Wincheſter to Oxford to proſecute his ſtudies, and that he continued there almoſt ſix years. They ſeem to have no ſufficient authority for what they ſay. The Writers neareſt his time make no mention of his being at Oxford at all, or

the caſe of the two Uvedales abovementioned. This is clearly explained by a paſſage in an application made by the College to the Founder by means of a third perſon not named. "Recommendamus inſuper memorie veſtre expenſas filiorum Gentilium qui per quam plures annos de mandato Domini ſtetерunt in Collegio ad graves ſumptus & expenſas ejuſdem oneroſas, quarum ſumma ſe extendit ad xxxvi libr. & ultra." Rot. Comp. Coll. Wint. communicated by the Revd. Mr. Blackſtone Fellow of Wincheſter College.

This inſtance of peculiar favour ſhewn to the Two young Gentlemen of the Uvedale Family adds to the probability of the Tradition, that Uvedale was his patron.

[1] Tractat. in Vet. Reg. Coll. Wint. Brev. Chron. Chaundeler.

[2] Edyngdon Biſhop of Wincheſter conſtitutes William de Wykeham his Attorney, to take poſſeſſion of certain lands, &c. December 10. 26 Ed. 3. [1352.] And Henry Sturmy of Elvecham conſtitutes him likewiſe his Attorney, to deliver ſeiſin of certain lands, &c. to Bp. Edyngdon, October 12th the ſame year. Lib. H. Coll. Wint. fol. 252, & 249. Which makes it probable that he was in Edyngdon's ſervice, as it is commonly ſaid.

rather

rather ſuppoſe the contrary. I muſt here give the Reader what Chaundeler ſays to this purpoſe in his own words: "Illum Speculativa "(Sapientia) minime forſan occupavit: perhi- "betur enim nec Artium, nec Theologiæ, ſed "nec utrorumque Jurium ſcolas exercuiſſe:--- "quomodo potuit ab inopi & pauperrima duc- "tus parentela ſine exhibitione ſcolas aut lite- "rarum exercitaſſe ſtudium?----de Practica "vero,---vir ſumme ſapiens." Which I think is as much as to ſay in expreſs terms, that he never ſtudied in any Univerſity. Chaundeler, who, within about fifty years after the death of Wykeham, was Warden of New College, and Chancellor of the Univerſity of Oxford, might at that time have eaſily known, whether he had ever ſtudied there or not, by conſulting the Univerſity Regiſters. Beſides, it does not appear, that he ever had any Academical Degree, nor is there the leaſt tradition of his having belonged to any particular Society there.

The above paſſage of Chaundeler gives us the real character of Wykeham with reſpect to his Learning; and lays open to us the true and only foundation of that Tradition, which has been delivered down from early times, and has received many additional circumſtances from the invention of later writers; that Wykeham

was

was an illiterate Perſon. One who after having been chiefly employed for ſeveral years in ſecular affairs, and without ever having gone through the uſual courſe of Academical Learning, ſhould become a Clergyman, however furniſhed with moſt parts of truly uſeful knowledge, yet ſuch as the ſchools were then entirely unacquainted with, would of courſe be looked upon as deficient in a principal part of a Clerical, that is, according to the opinion of thoſe times, of a Learned Education. But whoever conſiders the miſerable ſtate of learning in general, and in particular in the Univerſity of Oxford, in that age, will not think it any diſadvantage to him to have been led into a different courſe of ſtudies.

It was juſt at the time [1] when Wykeham muſt have been at the Univerſity of Oxford, if he had ever been there at all, that certain logical contentions, turning merely upon words, ſo far prevailed, as to divide the ſcholars into perpetual factions, and to become almoſt the only object of their ſtudies and attention. The Nominals liſted themſelves under the ſtandard of Occham the invincible Doctor, in oppoſition to the Reals, the followers of Duns Scotus, entitled the Subtile Doctor. This occaſioned the revival of the old quarrels, between the Nor-

[1] See Ant. Wood. Hiſt. Univ. Oxon. ad an. 1345.

thern

thern and Southern men: the former, for want of a better reaſon as it ſeems, joining themſelves to the party of their Countryman Scotus; and conſequently the latter, out of a mere ſpirit of oppoſition, ſiding with Occham. The conſequence of theſe diſputes was not only the eſtabliſhing of an unintelligible jargon in the ſchools, the thing that was chiefly meant in thoſe times when they talked of knowlege and learning, but the introducing of a ſcandalous barbarity and brutality of manners into the place appropriated to the ſtudies of humanity and politeneſs. The parties in their madneſs ſoon tranſgreſſed the bounds of Academical diſputation, and came to blows: they had frequent battles, which generally ended in bloodſhed. Six years ſpent at the Univerſity juſt at this time, and in that part of life in which prejudices of all kinds take the faſteſt hold and make the moſt laſting impreſſion, might have unhappily given a wrong turn to a perſon of as great a genius, as extenſive knowledge, and as ſound judgement, as any which that age produced. As he had a capacity, that would probably have carried him to the top of any profeſſion, into which he might have chanced to be thrown, he might indeed have become an eminent Schoolman; an Irrefragable, perhaps, or even a Seraphic Doctor: but we ſhould have abſolutely loſt the great

great ſtateſman, and the generous patron and promoter of true learning.

It was certainly for abilities very different from what were commonly attained at that time in the Univerſity, that Wykeham was recommended to Edward the Third. He is ſaid [4] to have been brought to Court, and placed in the King's ſervice, when he was about two or three and twenty years of age. What employment he had there at this time, (if he was really employed by the King ſo ſoon) I cannot ſay: for the firſt office, which he appears upon record to have borne, was that of Clerk of all the King's works, in his manors of Henle and Yeſhampſted. The [5] Patent conferring this

4 "Biennio vel triennio elapſo, poſt annum ætatis ſuæ viceſimum, tranſlatus eſt in curiam domini regis Edvardi III." Tractat. in Vet. Reg. Coll. Wint.

The following paſſage likewiſe ſpeaks of his having been engaged in the King's ſervice very early in his life, and contains an ample teſtimony of his merits. "Attendentes præterea ejuſdem Epiſ. probitatis præclara merita ac obſequia fructuoſa, quæ ipſe a *juvenili ætate* tam Avo & Patri noſtris prædictis, dum vixerant, quam etiam Nobis, poſtquam ad regale faſtigium aſcendimus, multipliciter impendebat, ipſis ac nobis in dicti regni & negotiorum ejuſdem operoſo regimine conſiliis & auxiliis opportunis continue ac fideliter aſſiſtendo, maximos utrobique ſuſtinendo labores pariter & expenſas;" —Preamble to a Licence of Mortmain granted to his Colleges. Dat. June 16. 13. R. 2. Rot. Pat. MS. Rymer. R. 2. Vol. III. p. 208. Item. Lib. H. Coll. Wint. fol. 122.

5 Rot. Pat. 30. Ed. 3. Tanner.

office upon him is dated the 10th of May 1356. On the [6] 30th of October following he was made Surveyor of the King's works at the Caſtle and in the Park of Windſor. By this Patent he had powers given him to preſs all ſorts of artificers, and to provide ſtone, timber, and all other materials, and carriages. He had one ſhilling a day while he ſtaid at Windſor, two ſhillings when he went elſewhere on his employment, and three ſhillings a week for his Clerk. On [7] the 14th of November, 1357, he received a grant from the King of one ſhilling a day, payable at the exchequer, over and above his former wages and ſalary. It was [8] by the advice and perſuaſion of Wykeham that the King was induced to pull down great part of the Caſtle of Windſor, and to rebuild it in the

6 Ibid. and Aſhmole, Inſtit. Ord. Garter, p. 128.

7 Rot. Pat. 31. Ed. 3. Tanner.

8 "Circa annum Domini 1359, Dominus Rex ad inſtigatio-
"nem Wilhelmi Wykeham Clerici in caſtro de Wyndeſhore
"multa bona ædificia fecit proſterni, & alia plura pulchra &
"ſumptuoſa ædificari; omnes fere lathomi & carpentarii per
"totam Angliam ad illam ædificationem fuerunt adducti, ita
"quod vix aliquis potuit habere aliquem bonum lathomum vel
"carpentarium niſi in abſcondito propter regis prohibitionem.
"Fuerat autem dictus Wilhelmus Wykeham de infimo genere,
"ut puta, ut dicebatur, ſervilis conditionis; tamen fuit multum
"aſtutus, & vir magnæ induſtriæ. Videns qualiter poſſet regi
"placere & illius benevolentiam adipiſci, conſuluit regi dictum
"caſtrum de Wyndeſhore taliter ſicut hodie patet intuenti ædi-

magnificent

magnificent manner in which, upon the whole, it now appears; and the execution of this great work he committed entirely to him. Wykeham had likewiſe the ſole direction of the building [9] of Queenborough Caſtle: the difficulties ariſing from the nature of the ground, and the lowneſs of the ſituation, did not diſcourage him from adviſing and undertaking this work; and in the event they only ſerved to diſplay more evidently the ſkill and abilities of the Architect.

Wykeham acquitted himſelf ſo much to the King's ſatisfaction in the execution of theſe employments, that he gained a conſiderable place in his maſter's favour, and grew daily in

" ficare; & infra modicum tempus poſtea unum novum caſtrum " in inſula de Shepeye juxta mare & mercatum ibi conſtituere; " licet locus ille ad hoc fuerat male diſpoſitus. Propter quod " Dominus Rex multis bonis & pinguibus beneficiis ipſum " Wilhelmum ditavit, & infra breve tempus poſt ſuum ſecretum " Sigillum fecit portare, & ſuccedente tempore ut eſſet Wynton. " Epiſ. procuravit; & tandem ad ſui honoris cumulum Cancel- " larium Angliæ ipſum conſtituit; ut verificaretur illud, Sic " honorabitur quem Rex vult honorare." Continuatio Chronici Ranulphi per Johannem Malverne ab an. Dom. 1326, ad an. 1394. MS. in Biblioth. Coll. Corp. Chriſt. Cantab. I give the whole that this author has relating to William of Wykeham, as it has not before been publiſhed.

9 Item MS. Coll. Wint.

his affections: [1] for from henceforth we find the King continually heaping upon him preferments both civil and eccleſiaſtical. It ſeems to have been all along his deſign to take upon him Holy Orders: he is ſtyled Clericus in all the above-mentioned Patents, I find [2] him called ſo as early as the year 1352. He had as yet only the Clerical Tonſure, or ſome of the lower Orders. The firſt Eccleſiaſtical Preferment which was conferred upon him, was the Rectory of Pulham in Norfolk by the King's

[1] There is a ſtory commonly told upon this occaſion, which I think deſerves but little regard, as it ſeems to ſtand upon no other foundation than ſome popular tradition. I ſhall give it here in the words of Arch-biſhop Parker, who, as far as I can find, is the firſt that relates it. "Quidam narrant Wickamum, "extructa arce Windſorina, in interiori quodam pariete hæc "verba, quæ latine tam appoſite & facete exprimi nequeunt, "inſculpſiſſe: This made Wickam. Hoc fecit Wickam. Quæ "locutio in Anglicana lingua, quæ caſibus raro diſcriminatur, "tam ambigua eſt, ut incertum ſit, utrum is arcem, an arx eum "effeciſſet. Hoc regi a calumniatioribus quibuſdam in eius in-"vidiam ita delatum eſt, ut quaſi Wickamus omnem extructi "ædificii laudem ſibi arroganter vindicarit. Quod cum rex "iniquo animo tuliſſet, eique probroſe objeciſſet: non ſibi tam "magnificæ regiæque ſtructuræ laudes, ſed ſtructuræ ſuas dig-"nitates commoditateſque, adſcripſiſſe dixit. Nec ego, inquit, "hanc arcem, ſed hæc arx me effecit, & ab ima conditione ad "regis gratiam, opes, atque dignitates evexit. Cum hoc re-"ſponſo adverſariorum calumniam vitaſſet, opibus & potentia "crevit indies." Antiq. Brit. Eccleſ.

[2] Lib. H. Coll. Wint. fol. 252.

preſentation:

preſentation: [3] it is dated the 30th of November, 1357. He met with ſome difficulties with regard to this preferment, from the court of Rome; wherefore he [4] received from the King on the 16th of April, 1359, a grant of two hundred pounds a year, over and above his former appointments, until he ſhould get quiet poſſeſſion of the Church of Pulham, or ſome other benefice to the value of one hundred marks. This diſpute, whatever it was, was not ſettled till two years afterward; when [5] on the 10th of July, 1361, he had from the King a new preſentation to Pulham. On [6] the 1ſt of March, 1358-9, he was preſented by the King to the Prebend of Flixton in the Church of Lichfield: this [7] he exchanged for ſome other benefice with John de Waltham, in November, 1361. On [8] the 10th of July, 1359, he was conſtituted chief Warden and Surveyor of the King's Caſtles of Windſor, Ledes, Dover, and Hadlam; and of the Manors of Old and New Windſor, Wichemer, and ſeveral other Caſtles, Manors, and Houſes, and of the Parks

3 Rot. Pat. 31. Ed. 3. Tanner.
4 Rot. Pat. 33. Ed. 3. Tanner.
5 Rot. Pat. 35. Ed. 3. Tanner.
6 Rot. Pat. 33. Ed. 3. Tanner.
7 Willis, Survey of Cathedrals.
8 Rot. Pat. 33. Ed. 3. Tanner. and Aſhmole, ibid.

belonging to them: with power to appoint all workmen, to provide materials, and to order every thing with regard to building and repairs; and in thoſe Manors to hold leets, and other courts, pleas of treſpaſs, and miſdemeanors, and to enquire of the King's liberties and rights. The King ſeems at this time to have been very intent upon carrying on his buildings at Windſor; for we find that[9] the next year workmen were impreſt in London, and out of ſeveral Counties, by writs directed to the Sheriffs, who were to take ſecurity of them, that they ſhould not leave Windſor without licence from Wykeham.

On [1] the 5th of May, 1360, he had the King's grant of the Deanry of the Royal Free Chapel, or Collegiate Church, of St. Martin Le Grand, London. He [2] exchanged this Deanry for the Prebend of Iwerneminſtre in the Dioceſe of Sarum on the 3d of October, 1361. Yet as he is ſtyled [3] the year after Dean of St. Martin's, we muſt conclude, that he was preſented to it again the ſecond time: and as he was [4] admitted again to the prebend of

9 Aſhmole, ibid.
1 Rot. Pat. 34. Ed. 3. Tanner.
2 Regiſt. Edyngdon. part 1ſt. fol. 106.
3 Regiſt. Edyngdon. part 2d. in Ordinationibus.
4 Regiſt. Metford. fol. 297.

Iwerne

Iwerne in the monaſtery of Shaftſbury, (the ſame I ſuppoſe with the former) by preſentation from the King in the vacancy of the Abbacy, (July 2d, 1362) he probably had exchanged it before for ſome other benefice. He held the Deanry of St. Martin's about three years; [5] during which time he generouſly rebuilt, [6] in a very handſome manner, and at a very great expence, the [7] cloiſter of the Chapter-houſe, and the body of the Church.

Wykeham [8] attended upon the King in the month of October, 1360, at Calais, when the Treaty of Bretigny was ſolemnly ratified, and confirmed by the reciprocal oaths of the Kings of England and France in perſon. In what character or office he waited on the King there, I cannot ſay: but he aſſiſted at this ceremony as a witneſs, and, as it ſeems, in quality of Public Notary.

To proceed with the liſt of his Eccleſiaſtical Preferments: he received from the King grants of the following Dignities, which I ſet down in the order of time, with the date of each pre-

5 Newcourt's Repertorium, Vol. 1. p. 424, & 427.

6 Newcourt, ibid. & Rot. Pat. pro reædificatione capellæ, &c. per Willielmum Wykeham, tunc decanum, &c. quoted by Bp. Tanner, Notit. Monaſt. p. 297.

7 "Clauſtrum domus capituli, & corpus eccleſiæ." MS. Coll. Wint.

8 Rymer Fœdera, Vol. 6. p. 234.

ſentation. A [9] Prebend in the Church of Hereford, July 12th, 1361. A [1] Prebend in the Collegiate Church of Abergwilly, July 16th; and the ſame day, a [2] Prebend in the Collegiate Church of Landewy Brevy, both in St. David's Dioceſe. A [3] Prebend in the Collegiate Church of Bromyard, Hereford Dioceſe, July 24th: this [4] he quitted in October following. The [5] Prebend of Oxgate in the Cathedral Church of St. Paul London, October 1ſt. A [6] Prebend in the Monaſtery of Wherwell, Winton Dioceſe, December 20. All theſe in the ſame year: in which likewiſe, by preſentation from other hands, he was admitted to the following Dignities. The [7] Prebend of Yatmenſter Overbury in the Church of Saliſbury, Auguſt 16th: The [8] Prebend of Fordington and Wriglington in the ſame, by exchange of the former, October 9th: the [9] Prebend of Bedminſter and Ratcliff in the ſame, October

9 Rot. Pat. 35. Ed. 3. Tanner.
1 Ibid.
2 Ibid.
3 Ibid.
4 Newcourt's Repertorium, Vol. 2. p. 67.
5 Rot. Pat. 35. Ed. 3. Tanner.
6 Ibid.
7 Regiſt. Metford. fol. 277.
8 Ibid. fol. 283.
9 Ibid.

15th:

15th: the [1] Prebend of Totenhall in the Church of St. Paul London, December 10th; which he reſigned a few days after, and was again preſented to it by the King in April 1363. He [2] was Canon of Lincoln in June, 1362: it [3] was the Prebend of Sutton which he held in that Church. He [4] had the Rectories of Aſwardby, Wodeland, and Goſberkirk, Lincoln Dioceſe: the later of which he [5] exchanged for the Prebend of Langtoft in the Cathedral Church of York, this ſame year: which he alſo quitted the next year for the Prebend of Laghton in the ſame Church. The [6] King gave him moreover, a Prebend in the Collegiate Church of Haſtings, Chicheſter Dioceſe, February 17th, 1362-3; a Prebend in St. Stephen's Chapel Weſtminſter, April 21ſt, 1363; the Arch-Deaconry of Northampton, April 26th; the Arch-Deaconry of Lincoln, May 23d; on [7] accepting which he reſigned the former; and the Prepoſiture of Wells with the Prebend annexed, December 15th, the ſame year.

Some of the foregoing Dignities he was poſſeſſed of before he was in Holy Orders. He

1 Newcourt's Repertorium, Vol. 1. p. 214.
2 Rymer Fœdera, Vol. 6. p. 372.
3 Regiſt. Langham, fol. 12.
4 Dr. Richardſon on Godwin, from Regiſt. Ginwell.
5 Bp. Tanner ex Regiſt. Eccleſiæ Ebor.
6 Rot. Pat. 37. Ed. 3. Tanner.
7 Le Neve's Faſti, ex Regiſt. Bokyngham.

[8] was admitted to the inferior Order of Accolite on the 5th of December, 1361; to the Order of Subdeacon, a ſuperior and Holy Order in in the Church of Rome's account, on the 12th of March following; both by Edyngdon Biſhop of Wincheſter in his Chapel at Southwark: and was there likewiſe ordained Prieſt by the ſame, June 12th, 1632. It does not appear when or by whom he was ordained Deacon.

His advancement in the State ſtill kept pace with his preferment in the Church. In [9] June, 1363, he was Warden and Juſticiary of the King's Foreſts on this ſide Trent. On [1] the 14th of March following, the King granted him an aſſignment of twenty ſhillings a day out of the Exchequer. He [2] was made Keeper of the Privy Seal on the 11th of May, 1364. And [3] within two years after he was made Secretary to the King. In May, [4] 1365, he was

8 Regiſt. Edyngdon, part 2d. in Ordinationibus.

9 Kennet's Parochial Antiquities, pag. 497. He is call'd *late* Warden, &c. in Rot. Pat. 42. Ed. 3. Tanner. Which Patent contains a Releaſe and acquittance from the King of all debts and demands on account of that office. Index Rot. Pat. Biblioth. Cotton. Titus c. 2.

1 Rot. Pat. 38. Ed. 3. Tanner.

2 Ibid.

3 Rot. Pat. 40. Ed. 3. Tanner. The Pope directs to him by the title of Secretary to the King of England as early as June 1364. Rymer Fœdera, Vol. 6. pag. 443.

4 Rymer Fœdera, Vol. 6. pag. 464.

com-

commiſſioned by the King to treat of the ranſom of the King of Scotland, and the prolonging of the truce with the Scots, together with the Chancellor, Treaſurer, and the Earl of Arundel. Not long after this, he is called [5] Chief of the Privy Council, and Governor of the Great Council; which terms however, I ſuppoſe, are not titles of office, but expreſs the great influence and authority which he had in thoſe aſſemblies.

There are ſeveral other preferments both Eccleſiaſtical and Civil, which he is ſaid to have held; but I do not mention them, becauſe the authorities produced for them are ſuch, as I cannot intirely depend upon. And as to his Eccleſiaſtical Benefices already mentioned, the practice of exchanging them was then ſo common, that it is hard to determine preciſely, which of them he held all together at any one time. However, we have a very exact account of this matter as it ſtood in the year 1366, when the ſum of his Church preferments was at the higheſt, given by Wykeham himſelf on occaſion of Urban the Fifth's [6] Bulle againſt Pluralities: the [7] practice of which

5 "Capitalis ſecreti Concilii, ac Gubernator Magni Concilii." Rymer Fœdera, Vol. 7. p. 164.

6 See the Bulle itſelf in Wilkins. Concil. Mag. Brit. Vol. 3. pag. 62.

7 Parker. Antiq. Britan. Eccl. ad an. 1367.

prevailed

prevailed greatly in the Church at this time; ſo that there were ſome in England, who, by the Pope's authority, poſſeſſed at once twenty Eccleſiaſtical Benefices and Dignities, with diſpenſation moreover for holding as many more as they could lawfully procure, without limitation of number. This Bulle was publiſhed in May, 1365; and orders all eccleſiaſtical perſons whatſoever poſſeſſed of more benefices than one, either with or without cure, to deliver to the Ordinary of the place where they commonly reſide, a diſtinct and particular account of ſuch their benefices, with the ſum which each is taxed at in the King's books, to be tranſmitted to the Metropolitan, and by him to the Pope. The Certificate of the Biſhop of London, made to the Arch-Biſhop of Canterbury, of the account exhibited to him by William of Wykeham of his benefices, is as follows.

[8] "In the ſame year and month [October, "1366.] Sir William of Wykeham Clerk, "Archdeacon of Lincoln, and [9] *Secretary* of "our Lord the Illuſtrious King of England, "and Keeper of his Privy Seal, by reaſon of "his ſaid office reſiding and commonly dwel-

8 Ex regiſtro Langham. fol. 12.

9 A word is here omitted in the original: it is ſupplied by conjecture.

"ling

" ling in the City and Dioceſe of London, in-
" timated and in writing exhibited to Us Simon
" Biſhop of London, clearly, particularly, and
" diſtinctly, as he affirmed, that he holdeth
" the Archdeaconry of Lincoln, having no ec-
" cleſiaſtical benefice nor manſe annexed unto
" the ſame, which is reputed to be a dignity
" in the Church of Lincoln, and is a benefice
" with cure, and incompatible with another
" cure; not taxed; the true and common an-
" nual value of the ſame, if the Archdeacon
" viſiteth all the churches of his Archdeacon-
" ry, and receiveth the whole procurations
" every where in ready money, extendeth to
" three hundred and fifty pounds ſterling.
" Item, the Canonry and Prebend of Sutton in
" the ſaid Church of Lincoln; it is a Benefice
" without cure, and compatible with a bene-
" fice with cure: the tax of the ſame is two
" hundred and ſixty marks ſterling. Item, the
" Canonry and Prebend of Laghton in the
" Church of York; it is a benefice without
" cure, and compatible with a cure, and is ſo
" held and reputed: the tax of the ſame is one
" hundred and ten marks ſterling. Item, the
" Canonry and Prebend of Bonham in the Col-
" legiate Church of Suthwell, York Dioceſe;
" it is a benefice without cure, and compatible
" with a cure: the tax of the ſame fifty five
" marks

" marks ſterling. Item, the Canonry and Pre-
" bend of the Altar of St. Mary in the Colle-
" giate Church of Beverly, York Dioceſe; it
" is a benefice without cure, and compatible
" with a cure: the tax of the ſame ſixteen
" pounds ſterling. Item, the Canonry and
" Prebend of Totenhale in the Church of
" London; a benefice likewiſe without cure,
" and compatible with a cure: the tax of the
" ſame ſixteen marks ſterling. Item, the Ca-
" nonry and Prebend of Fordyngdon in the
" Church of Sarum; a benefice alſo withou
" cure, and compatible with a cure: the tax
" of the ſame twenty five marks ſterling. Item;
" the Canonry and Prebend of Werwell in the
" Monaſtery of the nuns of Werwell, Wynton
" Dioceſe; it is a benefice without cure, and
" compatible with a cure: the tax of the ſame
" ſixty marks. Item, the Canonry and Pre-
" bend of Iwerne in the Monaſtery of the
" nuns of Shafton, Sarum Dioceſe; a benefice
" likewiſe without cure, and compatible with
" a cure, and ſo held and reputed: the tax of
" the ſame thirty marks ſterling. Item, the
" Canonry and Prebend of Swerdes in the
" Church of Dublin in Ireland; it is a bene-
" fice without cure, and compatible with a
" a cure: the tax of the ſame ninety marks
" ſterling. Item, the Prepoſiture of Wells

" with

" with a Prebend in the Church of Wells an-
" nexed to the ſame: the aforeſaid Prepoſiture
" is a ſimple office, and without cure, and
" compatible with another benefice with cure,
" and ſo it is held and reputed: the tax of the
" Prepoſiture with the Prebend annexed to it
" ſixty eight marks ſterling; and out of the
" fruits and produce of the ſaid Prepoſiture are
" paid to fourteen Canons for their Prebends,
" and to the Vicars and other miniſters of that
" Church, yearly one hundred and ſeventy five
" marks ſterling. Item, the aforeſaid Sir Wil-
" liam of Wykeham did hold at the time of
" the date of the aforeſaid monition, by colla-
" tion of our Lord the illuſtrious King of Eng-
" land, the canonry and Prebend of Alnethle
" in the aforeſaid our Lord the King's free
" Chapel of Bruggenorth, Coventry and Litch-
" field Dioceſe; it is a benefice without cure,
" and compatible with a cure; and the ſame,
" being of the King's patronage, he hath
" wholly reſigned and ſimply quitted it in form
" of law, as well really as verbally: and that
" the tax of the ſame, the Epiſcopal regiſters,
" as well as thoſe of our Lord the King and
" thoſe of our Lord the Pope's Nuncio in Eng-
" land, having been ſearched, and all requiſite
" diligence by him uſed in the ſame, could not
" be made appear, nor doth appear; where-
" fore

" fore the true and common value of the ſaid
" Prebend he hath exhibited unto Us Simon Bi-
" ſhop of London aforeſaid, that it extendeth
" annually to twenty three pounds ſix ſhillings
" and eight pence ſterling. Item, the ſaid Sir
" William did hold, by virtue of Apoſtolical
" Diſpenſation unto him in this behalf ſuffici-
" ently made and granted, at the time of the
" date of the monition aforeſaid and ſince, the
" Pariſh Church of Manyhynet, Exon Dioceſe,
" at that time of Lay patronage: it is a benefice
" with cure, not compatible with another cure,
" but the ſame Church he hath wholly reſigned
" and ſimply quitted in form of law, as well
" really as verbally: the tax of the ſame eight
" pounds ſterling. Item, he did obtain a Re-
" ſcript or Bulle Apoſtolical in the time of our
" Lord Pope Innocent the ſixth [1] of happy me-
" mory, directed to the Biſhop Elect of St.
" David's, to examine the ſaid William per-
" ſonally, and if he ſhould be found duly qua-
" lified, to grant unto him by proviſion the
" Canonry and Prebend of the Church of St.
" Andrew of Aukelond, Durham Dioceſe,
" which formerly Thomas de Brydekyk, alias
" de Karlelis, held in the ſaid Church during
" his life: but by virtue of the ſame he neither

[1] In the Original, Innocent the *Fifth*, by miſtake.

" hath

" hath ſince had collation, nor the ſaid Canonry " and Prebend hath he poſſeſſion of, nor hath " in any wiſe had, nor intendeth to have for " the future, nor in any manner to make uſe " of the ſaid Reſcript or Bulle Apoſtolical: " the tax or value is not known."

By this inſtrument it appears, that the yearly value, partly taxed and party real, of the benefices which Wykeham had for ſome few years held all together, was 873l. 6s. 8d. and of thoſe which he ſtill remained in poſſeſſion of, and continued to hold till he became Biſhop of Wincheſter, was 842l.

It is needleſs to obſerve, in what a high degree of favour Wykeham ſtood with the King, after having given ſo many ſubſtantial proofs of it. But the teſtimony of Froiſſart, a contemporary hiſtorian, perſonally acquainted with the affairs of the Engliſh Court, and at [2] this very time reſiding there, and employed in the ſervice of both the King and Queen, is too remarkable to be omitted. "At [3] this time," ſays he, " reigned a Prieſt called William of Wyke- " ham. This William of Wykeham was ſo " much in favour with the King of England, " that every thing was done by him, and no-

2 See Froiſſart, Vol. 4. Chap. 61. & 119.

3 Froiſſart, Vol. 1, Chap. 249. Edit. Paris, 1574. He calls him W. de Wican.

"thing was done without him." The King had raiſed him to ſome of the higheſt offices in the State, and intended to carry him ſtill higher: it was in a manner neceſſary, that his ſtation in the Church ſhould be proportionable. The King might eaſily have procured him a Biſhoprick before this time: but as Biſhopricks were not abſolutely in his diſpoſal, nor tranſlations from one Biſhoprick to another become the common ſteps of advancement in the Church, he ſeems to have reſerved Wykeham for the Biſhoprick of Wincheſter, which in point of honour and revenue would be a proper ſtation for his favourite miniſter, and which in the courſe of nature muſt ſhortly become vacant. He probably had it in his power to place him in the See of Canterbury, which became vacant about half a year before that of Wincheſter: but [4] Edyngdon was now declining apace, and Wykeham perhaps was deſirous of being ſettled in his native country; that this, rather than any other, might be the neareſt and moſt immediate object of his care and beneficence. In the mean time the King conferred upon him as many Eccleſiaſtical preferments, of a lower degree, as he could legally be poſſeſſed of; as marks of royal favour, and ſupports of his ſtate and dignity, while this great expectative was depending.

4 See Wharton, Ang. Sacr. Vol. 1. pag. 317.

THE LIFE OF WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM.

SECTION II.

From the time of his being made Biſhop of Winchester to the laſt year of Edward the Third.

WILLIAM de Edyngdon Biſhop of Winchester died [1] on the eighth of October, 1366. Upon the King's [2] earneſt recommendation, Wykeham was immediately and unanimouſly elected by the Prior and Convent to ſucceed him. The [3] congè d'elire is dated October the 13th. The King approved

[1] Wharton, Ang. Sacr. Vol. I. pag. 317.

[2] Ibid. & pag. 47. & Godwin.

[3] Dr Richardſon's Note on Godwin, from Rot. Pat. 41. (it ought to be 40.) Ed. 3.

the election on the 24th of the ſame month. The Pope [4] conſtitutes him Adminiſtrator of the Spiritualities and Temporalities of the vacant See, by his Bulle dated December the 11th of the ſame year: and he was [5] admitted to the adminiſtration of the Spiritualities by the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, February the 22d following. By his [6] Bulle of July the 14th, 1367, the Pope gives him leave to be conſecrated; referring in it to the Bulle of Proviſion of the ſame date, by which he confers on him the Biſhoprick. He was [7] conſecrated in St. Paul's London, on the 10th of October, 1367, by the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, aſſiſted by the Biſhops of London and Saliſbury. The ſame day [8] the Archbiſhop celebrated the Feaſt of

[4] See Appendix, N° V.

[5] Wharton, Ang. Sacr. Vol. I. p. 317.

[6] Regiſt. Wykeham, Part I. fol. 4. "Cum nos pridem Wyn-" ton. Eccleſiæ—auctoritate Apoſtolica duxerimus providendum" præficiendo te illi in Epiſcopum, prout in noſtris inde con-" fectis literis plenius continetur.—The word *pridem* relates only to the Pope's Proviſional Intention: for it appears from the general Title of Wykeham's Regiſter, that the Bulle of Proviſion was dated the ſame day, July 14th, 1367. "Regiſtrum" Wilhelmi de Wykeham cui de Epiſcopat. Wynt. per felicis" recordationis Urbanum div. pro. Papam Vtum per viam re-" ſervationis fuit proviſum ſub data Viterbii ſecundo Idus" Julij Pont. ſui anno Vto."

[7] Regiſt. Wykeham. General Title, and Beginning.

[8] Steph. Birchington apud Wharton Ang. Sacr. Vol. I. pag. 47.

Con-

Conſecration with great magnificence at his palace of Lambeth. Two days [9] after Wykeham received from the King the grant of the Temporalities of the Biſhoprick. Thus was it a whole year from the time of the vacancy, and even from the time of his election, before he could get into full poſſeſſion of his new dignity.

The delay, which this affair met with, has been taken notice of by many [1] authors; ſome of whom have aſſigned no reaſon for it; others, chiefly the later writers, have given a falſe one. Some ſay, that the King was very unwilling to promote, to ſo high a ſtation in the Church, a perſon who was ſo very deficient in point of Learning: this is not at all probable; Wykeham was recommended by the King, the election was made, and was approved by him, all within ſixteen days after the vacancy happened; with as much diſpatch, as was poſſible in an affair of this nature. Others pretend, that the Pope made the ſame objection: the contrary to this appears from the words of the Bulle above-mentioned, dated December the 11th, 1366,

[9] Rymer. Fœd. Vol. VI. pag. 574.

[1] See Wharton Ang. Sacr. Vol. I. pag. 47, & 317. Anonym. publiſhed by Hearn in Vol. II. of Walt. Hemingford. Ant. Wood. Hiſt, Univ. Oxon. Part. II. pag. 127. Parker, Truſſel, &c.

in which the Pope ſpeaks of Wykeham, as "recommended to him, by the teſtimony of "many perſons worthy of credit, for his know-"ledge of Letters, his probity of life and "manners, and his prudence and circumſpec-"tion in affairs both ſpiritual and temporal." Which teſtimony of his Learning is the more to be inſiſted upon, as it appears, on examining all the Bulles of this kind that occur in Rymer's Collection of public Records through this Century, that this part of the Bulle, in which the character of the perſon preferred is given, for the moſt part runs in more general terms, and has more frequently than otherwiſe no mention of Learning at all. The Pope was ſo far from making the objection, that he ſeems fully perſuaded, that there was really no room for it: for, we may be ſure, the Court of Rome had more addreſs, than to go out of its way, and depart from a common form, to compliment a perſon for the very quality, in which he was notoriouſly deficient.

But the true ſtate of the caſe, and the reaſon of this delay on the ſide of the Pope, ſeems to be this. Since the time of Henry the third, the Kings and Parliaments of England had re-

[a] See Appendix, N° V.

ſolutely

ſolutely oppoſed the uſurpations of the See of Rome; one conſiderable article of which among many was the Pope's aſſuming to himſelf the diſpoſal of all Church Preferments by way of Proviſion and Reſervation. The pretence was, that the Holy Father, out of his great care for the welfare of the Church in general, and that of ſuch a Dioceſe, ſuppoſe, in particular, had *provided* for it beforehand a proper and uſeful perſon to preſide over it, leſt in caſe of a vacancy it might ſuffer detriment, by being long deſtitute of a Paſtor; for which reaſon, out of the plenitude of his authority, he *reſerved* to himſelf for this turn the diſpoſal of the ſaid Biſhoprick, decreeing from that time forward all interpoſition, or attempts to the contrary, of all perſons whatſoever, null and void. The moſt effectual method of putting an end to theſe encroachments on the rights of the King, Chapters, and Patrons, ſeemed to have been taken under Edward the third, by the Statutes[3] of Proviſors and Premunire: yet the Pope ſtill continued his pretenſions, and his Proviſions in reality took place; only the perſon ſo preferred, was obliged to [4] renounce in form all

[3] Stat. of the 25th, 27th, and 38th years of Ed. 3.

[4] See Rymer's Fœdera, Vol. VI. pag. 597. Wilkins. Concil. Mag. Brit. Vol. II. pag. 266. This is the reaſon why the Bulle of Proviſion is not entered in Wykeham's Regiſter.

manner of right to the Temporalities, which might be derived to him from the Bulle of Provision, and all words contained in it prejudicial to the rights of the Crown. This was the occaſion of perpetual diſputes between the King and the Pope, and of the delay in the preſent caſe. Wykeham was probably a perſon very agreeable to the Pope, who had ſeveral[5] times made uſe of his intereſt with the King: and we ſee, that at this very time he made no difficulty of granting to him, as to the preſumptive Succeſſor, the Adminiſtration of the vacant See. The point in queſtion was not, whether Wykeham ſhould have the Biſhoprick of Winchester, or not; but by what title, and by whom it ſhould be conferred on him. The Pope's right of Proviſion was not to be dropt in the diſpoſal of ſo great a preferment, and when he had an opportunity by it of making a merit with the firſt Miniſter of the greateſt Prince in Europe. The King defended the right of Election: the Pope pretended, that Election in this caſe gave no right to the Biſhoprick, and would have it acknowledged as a favour from himſelf. The King had ſo great

[5] There are three Recommendatory Letters of Urban the V. to Wykeham in Rymer's Fœdera: one in July, 1363, another in June, 1364, the third in Jan. 1366-7, while this affair was depending.

a regard

a regard for Wykeham, that he condeſcended at laſt to form an intereſt with the Pope, to induce him to recede a little from his pretenſions. He[6] wrote to the Duke of Bourbon, one of his hoſtages for the King of France, to whom he had granted leave of abſence[7] about a year before, and had lately prolonged it at the Pope's requeſt, deſiring him to prevail with the Pope to confirm Wykeham's Election. The Duke went to Avignon, where the Pope then reſided, and ſolicited the affair in perſon. He was glad of this opportunity of laying the King and his Miniſter under an obligation to him. And it is probable, that in conſideration of this ſervice the King the more readily granted him his liberty the year following, on his paying[8] 140000 Crowns for his ranſom. The Pope was as well pleaſed to receive a petition from the King of England; it was the very thing he propoſed to himſelf by all this delay. He ſo far complied with it, as to end the diſpute without determining the merits of the cauſe: according to the general maxim of the Court of

[6] Froiſſart, Vol. I. Chap. 249.

[7] Rymer's Fœdera, Vol. VI. pag. 488, and 510.

[8] Rymer's Fœdera, Vol. VI. pag. 585. Not 12000, as Rapin ſays; nor 20000 Francs, as Froiſſart. He paid 10000 Crowns, Jan. 28th, 1367-8, and engaged to pay 30000 more, at three equal payments within the year.

Rome,

Rome, never to give up its pretenſions in any caſe whatſoever; but rather to yield to the deſire of an opponent too powerful to be reſiſted, as out of mere grace and favour, without admitting his claim. However, in the preſent caſe it ſeems to have been agreed, that each party ſhould in ſome meaſure allow the pretenſions of the other. Accordingly, the Pope's Bulle of July the 14th, 1367, before mentioned, in which he refers to the Bulle of Proviſion, is nevertheleſs directed to William Biſhop Elect of Wincheſter; and on the other hand, the King in his Letters Patent of the 12th of October, 1367, by which he grants him the Temporalities of the Biſhoprick, acknowlegds him Biſhop of Wincheſter by the Pope's Proviſion, without mentioning his Election. [a] He

[a] Regiſtr. Wykeham, pt. 3d. a. fol. 1.

The right of Inthroning all the Suffragan Biſhops of the Province is by ancient cuſtom the peculiar privilege of the Archdeacon of Canterbury. It may not perhaps be diſpleaſing to the reader to be informed of ſome parts of the Ceremony formerly uſed, with the particulars of the Archdeacon's Fees, upon this occaſion. [*] The Biſhop was received by the Archdeacon at his Entrance into the City, where he alighted from his Palfrey; and the Archdeacon immediately had the Palfrey, with the ſaddle and all the Furniture; and further, if the Biſhop's Groom would deliver to him the cover of the ſaddle, the girt, and headſtall, the Archdeacon was to reward him with the gift of two ſhillings,

[*] Harpsfield, Hiſt. Eccl. Ang. Sæculum XIII. cap. 10. Somner's Antiquities of Canterbury, Pt. 2d. p. 143.

was

was inthroned in the Cathedral Church of Winchester by William de Aſkeby, Archdeacon of Northampton, by Commiſſion from the Cardinal Archdeacon of Canterbury's Procurator General, on the 9th of July, 1368; who acknowleges him to be Biſhop of Wincheſter by Election, Confirmation, and Conſecration, without any mention at all of the Pope's Proviſion.

As ſoon as the diſpute between the King and the Pope, which was in effect no other than a contention which of them ſhould be the author of Wykeham's promotion, was accommodated; being now qualified, by his advancement in the Church, to receive the higheſt dignity in the State, he was conſtituted Chancellor of Eng-

or more, as in his bounty he ſhould think proper. The Biſhop undreſſed himſelf in ſome church or houſe near to the Cathedral; upon which the Archdeacon's ſervant ſeized his Riding-coat, Gloves, Hat, and Boots, for his maſter. From thence the Archdeacon conducted him to the Cathedral Church robed in his pontificals, and placed him in his throne. He had an allowance of hay and provender for fifteen horſes, as long as he continued in attendance upon this office; meat and drink for three days, and every night four gallons of wine at his ſupper; two great torches of wax during his whole ſtay; and every night two leſs torches, and two dozen of wax candles. On the day of Inthronization, the Biſhop's table being at the upper end of the hall, a table on the right ſide of the hall was furniſhed for the Archdeacon and the company whom he ſhould pleaſe to in-

land.

land. He was even poſſeſſed of this great office while he was only Biſhop Elect; for he was [1] confirmed in it on the 17th of September, 1367. We need not be ſurpriſed to find, that the Parliament of the next year was [2] opened by Langham, Archbiſhop of Canterbury, though Wykeham was then Chancellor: for the [3] part of addreſſing the Parliament by the King's command, or of Speaker of the Houſe

vite: the Biſhop drank to him out of a Cup of ſilver or ſilver gilt; and the Cup belonged to the Archdeacon. He had beſides ten marks ſterling in money for the expences of his Journey. The Biſhop's Bed alſo uſed anciently to be demanded and allowed, as the fee of the Archdeacon's Chamberlain: but this ſeems very early to have grown out of uſe. And the reſt of theſe cuſtoms began by degrees to be laid aſide and to become obſolete, when the Biſhops began to be inthroned by proxy, and the Archdeacons left off aſſiſting at the celebration of this ſolemnity in perſon, and at laſt eſtabliſhed the practice of performing their office by deputation; ſo that, I ſuppoſe, the pecuniary part of the Fee, or ſome equivalent for the whole in that ſhape, is all that at preſent remains to them.

[1] Dugdale's Chronica Series of Chancellors, &c. from Chart. 41. Ed. III. that is, 1367. He refers it to the year 1368, by a miſtake which runs through the whole reign of Ed. III. in his Series. All other Authors, who mention Wykeham's promotion, ſpeak of him as being made Chancellor and Biſhop of Wincheſter both about the ſame time. Philipot's Catalogue of Chancellors, p. 42. Spelman's Gloſſary in V. Cancellarius. Wharton, Ang. Sacr. Vol. I. p. 47 and 381. Froiſſart, Vol. I. chap. 249.

[2] Rot. Parl. 41. Ed. III.

[3] See Cotton's Abridg. of Parl. Rolls.

of

of Lords, was not yet by cuſtom appropriated to the office of Chancellor.

Conſidering the infinite multiplicity of affairs, which Wykeham had tranſacted for the King, in the ſeveral employments with which he had been entruſted, it was impoſſible for the moſt upright or prudent man to have acted in every particular with ſo much exactneſs and caution, as to guard againſt the envy and malice of thoſe enemies, which high ſtation in a court is ſure to create. As therefore he had now quitted ſome of thoſe employments, no more to be engaged in them, and was to act from henceforth in a new ſphere, he thought it proper to ſecure himſelf with regard to the paſt, by obtaining a full acquittance and diſcharge from the King. This the King granted him in the fulleſt and ampleſt manner, by his [4] letters patent, dated May the 22d, 1368.

A Parliament was ſummoned to be held at Weſtminſter, May 27, 1369. The King,

[4] "Rex omnibus, &c. Sciatis quod nos conſiderantes grata "& utilia obſequia nobis per Venerabilem Patrem W. de Wyke- "ham Epiſc. Wint. a diu impenſa, & magnum locum quem "nobis in noſtris agendis diverſimode tenuit & indies tenet, "graves & ſumptuoſos labores ſubeundo, ac volentes proinde "ipſius tranquillitati & quieti prout convenit providere, de "gratia noſtra ſpeciali & certa ſcientia pardonavimus eidem

Lords,

" by force of arms. On theſe attempts of the " King of France upon the ſaid Principality, " contrary to the form of the Treaty, the " Prince ſent ſpecial meſſengers fully to inform " the King of them; who alſo acquainted him, " that the Prince upon this occaſion, had ſum- " moned the wiſeſt men of the Principality, " and conſulted with them, whether upon ad- " vice of theſe open infractions of the Peace, " the King might not by right and reaſon re- " ſume and uſe the Title of King of France; " who anſwered, that he might do it by Right, " and good Faith. Upon this point the Arch- " biſhop of Canterbury and the other Prelates " are charged by the King to conſult together, " and to declare to him their advice and coun- " ſel. The King alſo willeth, as the cuſtom " hath been at theſe times, that all thoſe who " think themſelves aggrieved, ſhould preſent " their petitions; who ſhall be anſwered: and " for this purpoſe he hath aſſigned certain " Clerks to receive them, and certain Lords " and others to anſwer them."

I need only mention, that the King by the advice of his Parliament reſumed the ſtyle of King of France; the war was renewed on both ſides, and carried on very much to the advantage of the French. Charles the Vth had taken his meaſures ſo well, and concealed his preparations

ſations with ſo much artifice and diſſimulation, that the Engliſh were ſurpriſed unprovided for the war. The prince of Wales was diſabled, by the fatal diſeaſe which he brought with him out of Spain, from attending to the war with his uſual ſpirit and activity: his health daily declined apace, and with it the Engliſh affairs in France.

In two years time the French had made ſuch a progreſs, that they began to think of tranſferring the war into England, and were making vaſt preparations for an invaſion. Upon this the King ſummoned a Parliament to meet Feb. 24, 1370-1, which the Lord Chancellor opened with the following Speech[r].

"Sirs, You know very well, that in the laſt "Parliament, the King, with your approbation, "reſumed the title of King of France; becauſe "his adverſary had infringed the peace before "concluded between them, and uſurped the "ſovereignty, which by the terms of the peace "ought always to have belonged to the King. "On this occaſion and others the King hath "incurred great expences, having ſent ſome of "his Lords and others with a great number of "forces, in order to recover and maintain his

[r] Rot. Parl. 45. Ed. III.

" right. And now he hath received certain
" intelligence by his friends and allies, that his
" ſaid Adverſary is making himſelf ſtronger
" than ever he was before, and hath levied ſuch
" a number of forces, as ſeemeth to him ſuffi-
" cient, this year, to diſpoſſeſs the King of all
" the lands and countries which he hath beyond
" the ſeas; as well in Gaſcony, as at Calais,
" Guienne, Ponthieu, and his other caſtles and
" places there. He hath moreover gotten ready
" ſo many galleys and other ſhips of war, as
" ſeem to him ſufficient to deſtroy the whole
" Navy of England: and [8] uſeth alſo his utmoſt
" efforts to ſend a vaſt force of armed men into
" this country, to deſtroy it, and ſubject it to
" his own power. Therefore the King requi-
" reth and chargeth his Lords and Commons
" here aſſembled, to conſult upon theſe points,
" and to give him their advice, how his king-
" dom may be well guarded, and the Navy de-
" fended and maintained againſt the malice of
" his enemies; as alſo, for the ſafe-guard of
" the King's countries beyond the ſeas, and for
" the maintenance of the war in thoſe parts,
" and the reduction of them. The King like-
" wiſe commandeth thoſe, who would preſent
" their petitions, to deliver them to the Clerks

[8] E. auxi ſe affore; & bie d'envoier.

aſſigned

"aſſigned for this purpoſe, and they ſhall be "graciouſly anſwered."

I have inſerted theſe ſpeeches juſt as they ſtand recorded in the Parliament Rolls. They appear there to a great diſadvantage: though delivered in Engliſh, they are recorded in French; a language at that time more barbarous and unfit for the purpoſe, even than our own. They are ſhortened and given in ſubſtance only; the connexion and turn of the ſentences is altered, and, in the firſt of them particularly, the form of the whole is partly direct and partly oblique; an inconſiſtency, which it was neceſſary to correct by one or two ſmall deviations from the original. Yet from theſe Speeches we may obſerve, that Wykeham ſpoke upon theſe occaſions more like a Stateſman, than moſt of the Chancellors of thoſe times, eſpecially the Eccleſiaſtics. It [9] was almoſt their conſtant practice to lay down ſome Text of Scripture by way of Theſis for their diſcourſe, and to ſpend much time in dividing, and ſubdividing, and making very injudicious applications of it to the occaſion. Not ſatisfied with this, they frequently go out of their way to introduce ſtill more quotations of Scripture, and continue

[9] See Cotton's Abridg. of the Parliament Rolls. paſſim.

their diſcourſe as impertinently as they began it. Wykeham had more judgement than to comply with ſo abſurd a practice: he always ſpeaks directly to the point in queſtion, and gives a plain and diſtinct account of the preſent ſtate of public affairs.

In this Parliament the Lords and Commons repreſented to the King, [1] that the Government of the Realm had been for a long time in the hands of men of the Church; by which many miſchiefs had in times paſt happened, and more might happen in times to come, to the diſherſon of the Crown, and great prejudice of the Kingdom: they petitioned therefore, that Secular men only might be principal Officers of the King's courts and houſehold, and none of the Clergy: ſaving unto the King his prerogative of chooſing and removing Officers, provided they be of the Laity. The King's anſwer to this petition was only, That he would do therein by advice of his Council. Though he declined granting their requeſt, ſo as to make a Law in conſequence of it for the future; yet he ſoon reſolved to comply with their deſire for the preſent. Accordingly we find, that [2] on the 14th day of March the Biſhop of Wincheſter deli-

[1] Rot. Parl. 45. Ed. III.

[2] Rymer. Fœd. Vol. 6th. pag. 683.

vered

vered the Great Seal to the King, which the King two days after gave to Sir Robert de Thorp. The Biſhop was preſent at the ceremony of conſtituting the new Chancellor, and afterwards at that of his firſt opening the Great Seal in Weſtminſter Hall. From which circumſtances, as well as from the ſtate of the caſe itſelf, we may conclude, that he was neither diſmiſſed with any marks of the King's diſpleaſure, nor was himſelf diſſatisfied with his removal. To the ſame purpoſe it may be obſerved, that the [3] two Great and two Privy Seals, one of each of which was made the year before on the King's reſuming the title and arms of France, remained by Commiſſion from the King in his Cuſtody till the 28th of the ſame month, when he delivered them to the King: and that [4] ſoon after he received the King's writ of Summons to attend the Great Council, which was held at Wincheſter, to conſider of a proper method of levying the 50,000 *l.* granted by Parliament. To [5] this

[3] Rymer. Fœd. One of each was inſcribed Rex Franciæ & Angliæ, & Dominus Hiberniæ: the other Rex Angliæ, & Dominus Hiberniæ & Aquitaniæ.

[4] Regiſtr. Wykeham. pt. 4. fol. 4. dated April 27. an. reg. 45.

[5] Dugdale. Summonit. ad Parl. Some of our ancient Hiſtorians have miſtaken this Great Council for a Parliament: T. Walſingham. Anonymus publiſhed by Hearn in vol. 2d of Walter

Great Council only three other Biſhops, four Abbots, and thirteen temporal Lords, were ſummoned, with [6] whom were joined ſome of the Commons named by the King. Neither have we any reaſon to imagine, that the Biſhop of Wincheſter in particular was in any degree of diſfavour with the Commons, or was at all ſunk in their eſteem and confidence. We find [7], that in the year 1373 the Commons name him with ſeven other Lords, whom they petition to have appointed as a Committee to confer with them on the ſupplies to be granted to the King. It has been ſaid, [8] that the removal of the Clergy from the offices of ſtate was owing to the influence of the duke of Lancaſter, who was not their friend. I know not on what foundation this is ſaid with regard to the Duke's inclination towards the Clergy in general at this time: as to the Biſhop of Wincheſter in particular, he ſeems on the contrary to have continued hitherto very much in the Duke's good graces, who both before, and not long after this, honoured him with ſingular marks of his friend-

Hemingford. They have been followed in this miſtake by Nath. Bacon. Hiſt. & Polit. diſcourſe, &c. pt. 2d. pag. 35. edit. 1739. and Lord Bolingbroke, in Oldcaſtle's Remarks on Engliſh Hiſtory, Lett'. V.

[6] Brady's Hiſtory of England, Vol. 2.

[7] Rot. Parl. 47. Ed. III.

[8] Parker. Antiq. Britan. Collier. Eccl. Hiſt.

ſhip

ſhip and confidence. The Duke, [9] before his ſetting out on his expeditions to France in the years 1369 and 1373, obtained of the King a grant to certain Truſtees named by him, of the cuſtody and intire adminiſtration of all the revenues of his caſtles, manors, and eſtates, for one year after his own deceaſe, in order to the payment of his debts, and for other uſes, as he ſhould direct. He appointed the Biſhop of Wincheſter one of his Truſtees for both theſe grants. In the beginning of the year 1375, he likewiſe conſtituted him his attorney, together with the Earl of Arundel, to appear and act for him in any of the Courts of England, during his abſence at the Congreſs of Bruges.

The truth of the matter ſeems to be, that the Laity in general looked with an evil eye upon the Clergy, who had of late filled for the moſt part the great poſts of honour and profit in the ſtate; which, as it was obvious to remark, neither lay within their province, nor were ſuitable to their function and character. The practice, however improper in itſelf and liable to objection, yet ſeems to have taken its riſe from the neceſſity of the times: the men of abilities had for a long time been chiefly employed abroad in the wars; this was the moſt open road to

[9] Rymer, Fœdera, Vol. 7th. p. 8. & 61.

riches and honours, and every one was pushing forward in it. Beſides, it was not at any time eaſy to find among the Laity perſons properly qualified, in point of knowlege and letters, to fill with ſufficiency ſome of the higheſt offices. We ſee the King was now obliged to have recourſe to the Lawyers: they gave as little ſatisfaction as the Churchmen had done; and in a few years it was found neceſſary to diſcharge them, and to call in the Churchmen again.

The French invaſion which had given ſuch an alarm in England, that [1] even the whole body of the Clergy from the age of ſixteen to ſixty were ordered to be arrayed, muſtered, and in arms, came at laſt to nothing. In the year 1374 the Duke of Lancaſter concluded a truce with the French, in which by their intrigues they gained ſtill more, than they had done in the war. The truce was next year renewed; and by this time the Engliſh were in a manner driven out of France.

Pope Gregory the Eleventh had interpoſed with his mediation, and had prevailed with the Kings of England and France to ſend their Ambaſſadours to Bruges to treat of a Peace.

[1] Regiſtr. Wykeham. pt. 4th. fol. 5. Wilkins's Concil. Mag. Brit. Vol. 3. p. 91.

On

On this occaſion the Pope [2] wrote to the Biſhop of Wincheſter, as to a perſon who had the greateſt influence with the King, exhorting and conjuring him to uſe his utmoſt endeavours to incline him to an accommodation. His Holineſs did not omit, in the concluſion of his Letter, to beſeech him as earneſtly, to forward by all poſſible means the payment of the Subſidy, which on various pretences he had impoſed on the Clergy of England; and which [3] was now moderated to the Sum of 60,000 Florins, in a conference between the agents of both parties at the Congreſs of Bruges; on condition however, that 40,000 Florins more ſhould be paid, to make up the Sum at firſt demanded, in caſe that the Treaty ſhould happily terminate in a Peace between the two Kingdoms.

[2] See Appendix, N° VI.

[3] Regiſtr. Wykeham, pt. 3d. a fol. 133.

THE LIFE OF WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM.

SECTION III.

Eccleſiaſtical affairs during the ſame time.

THOUGH Wykeham was ſo deeply engaged in affairs of State, and ſo much taken up in his perſonal attendance upon the King, yet he was not in the mean time inattentive to his Epiſcopal Function, or remiſs in the care of his Dioceſe. While [1] he was Adminiſtrator of the See, he acted only by his Commiſſary General, John de Wormenhale. When he was in full poſſeſſion of the Biſhoprick, one of the firſt things that required his attention was the care of the Epiſcopal Houſes

[1] Regiſter. Wykeham. part 1.

and

and Buildings of all ſorts, which his Predeceſſor [2] had left very much out of repair in general, and many of them in a ruinous condition. The Buildings belonging to the Biſhops of Winchester were at this time very large and numerous: beſides a great many granges, parks, warrens, and the like, they had ten [3] or twelve different Caſtles, Manor-houſes, or Palaces of Reſidence, properly accommodated for the reception of themſelves and their retinue; to all which in their turns they uſually reſorted, living according to the cuſtom of thoſe times chiefly upon the produce of their own eſtates. So great a demand, as the Biſhop had upon his Predeceſſor's Executors for dilapidations, could not very ſoon, or very eaſily, be brought to an accommodation: however the account was at laſt ſettled between them without proceeding on either ſide to any action at Law. In [4] the firſt place they delivered to him the ſtanding

[2] "Dicti Executores dixerunt ſibi conſtare, quod ædificia, "turres, muri, et clauſuræ, in caſtris & maneriis dicti Epiſcopatus "tempore mortis ejuſdem nuper Epiſc. diverſimode fuerant "ruinoſa, & maxima debilitate depreſſa, & quamplurima eorum "omnino ad terram diruta & proſtrata, quod de neceſſitate re-"paratione maxima indiguerint."——Regiſt. Wykeham. part 3. a. fol. 64.

[3] Wolveſey, South-Waltham, Merwell, Sutton, High-Clere, Farnham, Eſhere, Wargrave, Southwerk, Taunton, &c.

[4] Regiſt. Wykeham. part. 3. a fol. 63.

ſtock

ſtock of the Biſhoprick due to him by right and cuſtom[5]: namely, 127 Draught-Horſes, 1556 head of black Cattle, 3876 Weathers, 4777 Ewes, 3521 Lambs: and afterwards for dilapidations, in cattle, corn, and other goods, to the value of 1662*l.* 10*s.* ſterling. The Biſhop made a further demand of 700 Marks, as ſtill due to him and allowed upon account; which Edyngdon's executors acknowleged, and promiſed to pay. This matter was finally ſettled Feb. 6th 1371-2.

The Biſhop immediately ſet about this great work of repairing all the Epiſcopal Buildings in ſuch a manner, as might have been expected from one of his generous ſpirit, and of his ſkill and experience in Architecture. To[6] ſupply himſelf with the beſt ſtone in ſufficient

[5] "Petrus de Roches [ſive de Rupibus] legavit Eccleſiæ "Wynton. & Epiſcopis ſucceſſoribus ſuis, qui pro tempore "erunt, in ſtaurum vivum, quod ſequitur; ita quod quilibet "Epiſcopus Wynton. Succeſſori ſuo et Eccleſie Wynt. in de- "ceſſu ſuo tantum in ſtaurum ſub pena anathematis relinquet "neceſſario: videlicet,

"De bobus MDLVI.
"De affris CXXVII.
"De multon, MMMDCCCLXXVI multon.
"De ovibus matricibus MMMMDCCLXXVII.
"De agnis MMMDXXI."

MS. penes Dom. Epiſc. Wint. fol. 90.

[6] Ibid. part. 3. a fol. 47.

quantity,

quantity, he purchaſed the uſe of the ſtone-quarries of Quarrer Abby in the Iſle of Wight, which were formerly much in repute though now for many ages diſuſed and neglected. The Abbot engaged to aſſiſt him, as general director and ſurveyor of theſe preparations: and the Biſhop wrote circular letters to all the Eccleſiaſtics of the Iſland, both Regular and Secular, to deſire them to ſend in as many workmen, carriages, and other neceſſaries for the work, as they could ſupply him with, at the demand, and according to the directions of the Abbot; all to be defrayed at his own expence. In[7] theſe repairs of the Epiſcopal houſes, together with ſeveral new buildings, raiſed by him upon the eſtates of the Biſhoprick, he expended in the whole above 20,000 Marks.

In[8] the Year 1373 the Biſhop held a Viſitation of his whole Dioceſe; not only of the ſecular Clergy through the ſeveral Deanries, but alſo of the Monaſteries, and Religious houſes of all ſorts, all[9] which he viſited in per-

[7] MS. Coll. Winc.

[8] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. a fol. 90, &c.

[9] "Nuper dum Civitatem & Dioceſ. noſtram Wynt. clerum "& populum ejuſdem, cepimus *perſonaliter & actualiter* viſitare." ——Ibid. fol. 99. The City of Wincheſter, though much diminiſhed in its greatneſs and ſplendor ſince the time when it

ſon.

ſon. The [1] next year he ſent his Commiſſioners with powers to correct and reform the

[1] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. a fol. 112.

was the Metropolis of the Saxon Monarchy, and ſtill continuing to decline, was nevertheleſs, at this time, a large and populous place. I ſhall here give a ſhort view of its Eccleſiaſtical ſtate; from which alſo ſome judgement may be formed of its condition in other reſpects.

The Monaſteries and other Religious Houſes in the City and Suburbs of Winchester.

The Old Miniſter, or Cathedral Church of St. Swythun, a Prior and Convent of XLVI Monks, Benedictines.

The New Miniſter, or Abby of Hide, Benedictines.

The Nunnaminſter, or Abby of St. Mary; an Abbeſs, and XXI Nuns (at the Diſſolution:) Benedictines. A little within the Eaſt Gate, on the left hand as you enter it.

The Hoſpital of the Almonry of the Church of St. Swythun; Siſters maintained by the Monaſtery: commonly called the Suſtern Spytal. Adjoining to the preſent College on the Weſt.

The College of St. Elizabeth; a Provoſt, VI Chaplains Prieſts, VI Clerks and VI Choriſters. Near the preſent College on the South-Eaſt.

The Chapel of Holy Trinity; a Warden and ſeveral Prieſts. On the North ſide of the Church-yard of the Abby of St. Mary.

A Convent of each of the IV Orders of Mendicant Friars. The Auguſtin Friars, juſt without South-Gate, on the left in the road to Southampton. The Grey Friars, or Minors, on the right juſt within Eaſt-Gate. The Dominicans, or Preaching Friars, on the North, within the City.

The Prior and Brethren of St. Peter in the Church of St. Maurice.

The Church of St. Mary Kalendar.

Tanner Notit. Monaſt. and ſee Appen. N° XVII.

ſeveral

ſeveral irregularities and abuſes, which he had diſcovered in the courſe of his Viſitation.

The Parochial Churches and Chapels in the City and Suburbs of Wincheſter, in the time of Adam de Orleton Bp. of Wint. i. e. A. D. 1333——1345. From MS. Coll. Wint.

Eccleſiæ Taxatæ.

Eccleſia Sti. Johannis de Monte.
——— Sti. Petri de Chuſhull.
——— Sti. Jacobi.
——— Stæ. Fidis.
——— Stæ. Anaſtaſiæ.
——— Btæ Mariæ de Valibus, cum Capella.
Eccleſiæ Sti. Bartholomæi in atrio de Hyda.
——— Sti. Stephani juxta Wolveſey.
——— Sti. Laurentii Wynton.
——— Sti. Mauritii.
Capella Stæ. Gertrudis.

Eccleſiæ non Taxatæ.

Capella Stæ. Trinitatis: (ſub Cuſtode; above-mentioned among the Religious Houſes.)
Eccleſia de Colebrokſtret.
——— Sti. Johannis de Hoſpitali.
——— Btæ Mariæ in Tanerſtret.
——— Sti. Pancratii.
——— Sti. Johannis de Edera.
——— Sti. Martini in viso carnificum.
——— Sti. Michaelis extra Kyngate.
——— Btæ. Mariæ de Walda.
——— Sti. Ruwoldi (vel Rombaldi.)
——— Btæ Mariæ de Kalender.
——— Sti. Laurentii.
——— Sti. Laurentii de Parchemenſtret.
——— Sti. Petri de Marcell. (f. de Macello.)
——— Sti. Clementis.
——— Sti. Alphegi.
——— Sti. Petroci.
——— Sti. Michaelis in Judaiſmo.
——— Sti. Salvatoris.
——— Btæ Mariæ extra portam Borealem.
——— Stæ Margaretæ.
——— Sti. Petri de Albopane.
——— Sti. Andreæ.
——— Sti. Nicholai de Goldſtret.
——— Omnium Sanctorum in Goldſtret.
——— Btæ Mariæ in Atrio Sti. Swythuni.

Some

Some years afterward, the Biſhop, having viſited three ſeveral times all the Religious Houſes throughout his Dioceſe, and being well informed of the ſtate and condition of each, and of the particular abuſes which required correction and reformation, beſide the orders which he had already given, and the remedies which he had occaſionally applied by his commiſſioners, now iſſued his injunctions to each of them. They were accommodated to their ſeveral exigencies, and intended to correct the abuſes introduced, and to recall them all to a ſtrict obſervation of the Rules of their reſpective Orders. Many of theſe injunctions * are ſtill extant, and are evident monuments of the care and attention, with which he diſcharged this part of his Epiſcopal duty.

But the zeal and diligence, with which the Biſhop purſued the wholeſome work of diſcipline, and the reformation of abuſes, will be beſt exemplified by an accounnt of his proceedings in the Viſitation of the Hoſpital of St. Croſs; of which we are able to give a more particular detail, as he met with ſome difficulties and obſtructions in them, and was, upon that occaſion, engaged in a long and trou-

* MS Coll. Nor. They bear date 1586-7.

bleſome

bleſome diſpute. It will be neceſſary to premiſe an account of the foundation and conſtitution of this ample and remarkable charity; which, if it is more particular than is elſewhere to be met with, will not, perhaps, be the leſs agreeable to the curious reader.

The [3] Hoſpital of St. Croſs, at Sparkeford, near Wincheſter, was founded by Henry de Blois, Biſhop of Wincheſter, and brother to King Stephen, in the year [4] 1132, for the health of his own Soul, and the Souls of his Predeceſſors, and of the Kings of England. The Founder's inſtitution requires, That Thirteen poor men, ſo decayed and paſt their ſtrength, that without charitable aſſiſtance they cannot maintain themſelves, ſhall abide continually in the Hoſpital, who ſhall be provided with proper cloathing, and beds ſuitable to their infirmities; and ſhall have an allowance daily of good wheat bread, good beer, three meſſes each for dinner, and one for ſupper. If any one of theſe ſhall happen to recover his health and ſtrength, he ſhall be reſpectfully diſcharged, and another admitted in his place. That beſide theſe Thirteen Poor, a Hundred other Poor,

[3] The account of St. Croſs is collected from Regiſt. Wykeham, and MS. Coll. Nov.

[4] MS. penes Dom. Epiſcopum Wint. fol. 22.

of modest behaviour, and the most indigent that can be found, shall be received daily at dinner time; and shall have each a loaf of coarser bread, one mess, and a proper allowance of beer, with leave to carry away with them whatever remains of their meat and drink after dinner. The Founder also ordered other charities to be distributed to the poor in general, as the revenues of the Hospital should be able to bear; the whole of which was to be applied to such uses.

The Endowment of the Hospital consisted chiefly in a Donation of several considerable Rectories [5] for the most part belonging to the Diocese of Winchester, and of the Bishop's Patronage: the greatest part of which, though granted to the Hospital by the terms of the Charter of Foundation, were, from the first, only made subject to the payment of certain annual Pensions to it; the rest were appropriated

[5] The Churches of Ferreham, [with the Manor of Asshton,] Nuttessellynge, Mellebrock, Twyford, Henton, Alwarestock, Exton, Husseborne, Wytchercho, Chilbalton, Wodehay, Awelton, [or Aulton in Canyngmersh, Com. Wilts.] Wynteney, [or Wyteney, Com. Oxon.] Stocton, [Com. Wilts.] Ovyngton, with their appertenancies and dependencies; and the tythes of the Lordship of Waltham; and other rents assigned in the City of Winchester. These by the Charter of Foundation. To these were added by the Founder the Churches of Waltham, Upham, and Baghurst; and, by the same or some other benefactor,

ated to the Hoſpital. The Revenues of the Hoſpital appear, by an old record of Inquiſition, produced in Wykeham's time by the Prior of Wincheſter, from the Archives of his Monaſtery, without date, to have amounted to 850 l. per annum: they are ſaid by Wykeham in his letters to the Pope, to be above 300 l. per annum; and are proved by the teſtimony of one who had been long Steward of the Hoſpital, and many others, to have been, at that time, above 400 l. per annum. The whole Revenues of the Hoſpital were free from all Taxes both to the King and Pope, as being wholly appropriated to the Poor; except 7 l. 4 s. 6 d. (called elſewhere 8 l.) per annum, which was the valuation of the Prior's, or Maſter's, Portion.

The particular allowances to the Poor, with their valuations according to the above-mentioned Record of Inquiſition, were as follows: Each of the Thirteen ſecular Brethren had daily one loaf of good wheat bread, of five marks

factor, that of Farle. "Licet in iſta carta [Fundationis] con-
"tineantur diverſe donationes eccleſiarum fact. domui Ste Crucis
"predicte, nichilominus dicta domus nullas earum habet ſibi
"appropriatas preter eccleſias de Huſborne, Whitcherche, Fare-
"ham, & Twyford, cum capellis; ſed habet ex eis certas pen-
"ſiones, ut ſuperius dictum eſt. De eccleſia vero de Wytteneye
"nichil omnino percipit." MS. penes Dom. Epiſc. Wint. fol. 2.

weight; (or 2 ½ pounds;) one gallon and half of good ſmall beer; a ſufficient quantity of pottage; three meſſes at dinner, namely, one meſs called [6] Mortrell, made of milk and Waſtelbred, one meſs of fleſh or fiſh, and one pitance as the day ſhould require; and one meſs for ſupper; The whole valued at 17d. q. a week; in Wykeham's time at 3d. a day. On ſix Holidays in the year they had white bread and ale in the ſame quantities; and one of their meſſes was roaſt-meat, or fiſh of a better ſort; and on the Eves of thoſe Holidays, and that of the Founder's Obit, they had an extraordinary allowance of four gallons of ale among them. The Hundred Poor were fed in a place called Hundredmenneſhall: each o

[6] The Gloſſaries give us no very ſatisfactory account of theſe words: the meaning of the firſt is better determined by the deſcription here given, than from any other explication that I can find of it. *Waſtelbred* was a better ſort of Bread; ſo called from *Waſtell*, the Veſſell, or Baſkett, in which it was made, or carried, or weighed; as it ſeems probable from the following paſſage: "Octo panes in *Waſtellis*, ponderis cujuslibet *Waſtelli* "unius miche conventualis."—Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 177. The word *Waſtel* ſeems to anſwer to the French *gaſteau, a cake*. It appears from the Prologue of Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, that it was Bread of a finer ſort; for the Prioreſſe, who is repreſented as a very delicate lady, fed her lap-dogs with it:

"Of ſmale houndes hadde ſhe, that ſhe fedde
"With roſted fleſh, and milk, and waſtel brede."

them

them had a loaf of coarſer bread of five marks weight, three quarts of ſmall beer, a ſufficient quantity of pottage, or a meſs of pulſe, one herring, or two pilchers, or two eggs, or one farthing's worth of cheeſe; value 3d. q. a week: of which Hundred Poor were always Thirteen of the poorer ſcholars of the Great Grammar School of Wincheſter, ſent by the Schoolmaſter. On the Anniverſary of the Founder's Obit, Auguſt 9, being the Eve of St. Laurence, Three Hundred Poor were received at the Hoſpital: to each of the firſt Hundred were given one loaf and one meſs of the ſame ſort with thoſe of the Brethren's ordinary allowance, and three quarts of beer; to the ſecond Hundred was given the uſual Hundredmen's allowance; and to each of the third Hundred half a loaf of the Brethren's bread. On ſix Holidays in the year the Hundred men had each a loaf of the better ſort of bread, and a double meſs. There were beſides, maintained in the Hoſpital, a ſteward, with his clerk, two ſervants, and two horſes; a porter; nine ſervants; two teams of ſix horſes each, and three carters.

The Founder had in the year[7] 1157, conſtituted the Maſter and Brethren of the Hoſpital

[7] MS. Penes Dom. Epiſc. Wint. fol. 23.

of St. John of Jeruſalem Guardians and Adminiſtrators of his Hoſpital of St. Croſs, ſaving to the Biſhop of Wincheſter his Canonical Juriſdiction. A diſpute ariſing between Richard Toclive Biſhop of Wincheſter, immediate ſucceſſor to Henry de Blois, and the Maſter and Brethren of St. John of Jeruſalem, concerning the adminiſtration of the Hoſpital, King Henry the Second interpoſed, and by his mediation an agreement was made between them. The Maſter and Brethren ceded to the Biſhop of Wincheſter and his ſucceſſors the Adminiſtration of the Hoſpital, the Biſhop giving them the Impropriation of the Churches of Mordon and Hanniton for the payment of 53 marks per annum; and procuring them a diſcharge from the penſion of 10 marks, two wax candles, and ten pound of wax, paid to the Monks of St. Swythun for the Houſe of St. Croſs, by [a] compoſition between them and the Brethren of St. Croſs, made in the time of the Founder: and the Biſhop moreover, out of regard to God, and for the health of the King's ſoul and his own, (and becauſe the revenues of the Hoſpital were ſufficient for the maintenance of many more poor, and ought not to be converted to other uſes, as Wykeham repreſents to the Pope,)

[a] MS. penes Dom. Epiſc. Wint. fol. 2.

orders,

orders, that beside the number instituted by the Founder, one Hundred additional poor should also be fed every day in the same manner at the Hospital. This agreement is dated April the 10th 1185, and was made at Dover in the presence of the King, and attested by him. This new institution of feeding a Hundred additional poor was not of long continuance: it had ceased long before Wykeham's time; and instead of it, by what authority I cannot say, was introduced the establishment of four Priests, thirteen secular Clerks, and seven Choristers, who were maintained in the Hospital for the performance of divine service in the church. The four Priests dined at the Master's table, and had each a stipend of 13s. 4d. and the whole allowance to each was valued at 3l. 6s. 8d. per annum: the thirteen Clerks had each daily a loaf of wheat bread, weight 61 shillings and 8 pence, (i. e. 2 lb. 7 oz. and $\frac{1}{2}$ nearly; [9] or, almost 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.) three quarts of beer, and one mess of flesh or fish of the

[9] "Constat quælibet Libra ex xxv. Solidis. Et sciendum, "quod quælibet libra de denariis & speciebus, utpote in Electua-"riis, constitit solummodo ex pondere xx S. Libra vero omnium "aliarum rerum constitit ex xxv Solidis." Tractat. De Pond. & Mensuris, 31. Ed. I. in Cay's Statutes at large.

"Quælibet Libra ex pondere xxv Solid. Libra vero auri, "argenti, electuariorum, & hujusmodi Apothecar. confectorum,

 "constitit

the Brethren was allotted to two of them, value 10 d. q. a week; the ſeven Choriſters had each one loaf of the common family bread, and one meſs, or the fragments of the Maſter's table and Common Hall, ſo as to have a ſufficient proviſion, value 5 d. a week; and were taught at ſchool in the Hoſpital.

Such was the inſtitution and economy of the Hoſpital of St. Croſs; which had hitherto been well obſerved in general, and conſtantly maintained with regard to all the particulars abovementioned. Wykeham indeed repreſents to the Pope, that ſome of the former Biſhops of Wincheſter had preferred to it their nephews and kinſmen, not rightfully as to the Maſterſhip of an Hoſpital, but as to an Eccleſiaſtical Benefice; who had converted to other purpoſes the revenues of it aſſigned to theſe pious uſes, contrary to the Canons, and to the Founder's inſtitution. In this he ſeems to have a particular view to John de Edyngdon, nephew to the

" conſiſtit ſolummodo ex pondere viginti Solid. Sterlingorum." Fleta Lib. 2. Cap. 12.

" Una Libra ponderat pondus xxv Solidorum legalium Ster-" lingorum." MS. 54. Hen. 3.

From the Report of the Committee of the Houſe of Commons to inquire into Weights and Meaſures, 1758.

late

late Biſhop[1]; who had quitted the Maſterſhip ſome time before Wykeham came to the Biſhoprick. By his manner of leaving this office we may pretty well judge how he had acted in it: he took away and alienated the whole ſtock belonging to the Hoſpital; all the cattle, corn, goods, inſtruments, utenſils, and moveables whatſoever, either in the Houſe itſelf, or upon the eſtates. Beſides, the neceſſary repairs of dilapidations left by him amounted by computation to between three and four hundred pounds.

Wykeham was no ſooner Biſhop of Wincheſter, than he reſolved to rectify theſe abuſes. William de Stowell, Edyngdon's ſucceſſor, perhaps foreſeeing the ſtorm that was coming on, choſe to make his retreat, and procured the Rectory of Burghclere in exchange for his Maſterſhip. The Biſhop admitted of the exchange; but ordered him immediately upon his reſignation to make a full and particular inventory of all the ſtock and goods belonging to the Hoſpital at preſent, with an account of the ſtate in which he at firſt received them, by way of Indenture between him and Richard de Lyn-

[1] Biſhop Edyngdon collated his nephew to the Maſterſhip of St. Croſs Hoſpital, April 18, 1349, "In beneficium perpetuum "& non curatum." Regiſt. Edyngdon, part 1. fol. 45.

tesford

tesford his ſucceſſor; to keep one copy of it himſelf, to deliver another to his ſucceſſor, and a third to him, the Biſhop, for his better information, when he ſhould come thither in perſon. This mandate is dated March 23, 1367, the day after Lyntesford's admiſſion: William de Stowell immediately obeyed, and ſent an inventory. The next ſtep the Biſhop took, was to ſend Commiſſaries to the Hoſpital, and the ſeveral manors and eſtates belonging to it, to examine into the ſtate of things at the time of the death of Richard de Luſcehull late maſter, and inquire, what ſtock and goods his executors delivered to his ſucceſſor John de Edyngdon. The Commiſſion is dated April 20, 1368.

Lyntesford began now to repent of his exchange, not finding himſelf likely to make the advantages, which he had expected from his new preferment. The Biſhop had ſequeſtered his goods as a ſecurity for the ſtock of the Hoſpital. He took the ſame method that his Predeceſſor had done, and got an exchange of his Maſterſhip with Roger de Clouſe for the Rectory of Campſall in Yorkſhire. Juſt as this affair was brought to a concluſion, the Biſhop, being now fully and regularly informed of the embezzlements and abuſes committed by the ſeveral late Maſters of the Hoſpital, iſſued

iſſued a Commiſſion, dated July 30, 1370, to enquire into the particulars and value of the true and accuſtomed ſtock and goods belonging to it, as they ought to be tranſmitted from Maſter to Maſter; and to examine upon oath all perſons that could give information in this affair, and particularly Edyngdon, Stowell, Lyntesford, late Maſters, and Cloune the preſent Maſter.

Upon the report of his Commiſſioners, the Biſhop ſummoned the four Maſters to appear before him at Southwark on the 22d of October, 1370. He repreſents to them the deſign of the Foundation of the Hoſpital; that the whole revenues of it are to be applied to the uſe of the Poor, except the Maſter's allowance, taxed at 71. 4s. 6d. and no more; and that the Maſter of the Hoſpital is obliged yearly to make an inventory, and give an account of his adminiſtration to his Dioceſan, according to the Conſtitution [1] of Clement the Vth, "Quia "contingit, &c." That the Maſterſhip is not a perpetual Eccleſiaſtical Benefice, but a temporal Office requiring continual reſidence and perſonal miniſtry. That therefore he will proceed againſt them, enforce the ſaid conſtitution, and compel all and every one of them, to make

[1] Clementin. Lib. 3. tit. 11. cap. 2.

an

an inventory, and give an account of their adminiſtration. They plead, that they are not obliged, nor was it ever the cuſtom, ſo to do. Roger de Cloune's Plea in particular is; that the houſe of St. Croſs is a perpetual Eccleſiaſtical Benefice, ſine-cure, free from all obligation of making oath, giving any inventory, or rendering any account; that it was principally founded for the honour of the worſhip of God, and has nothing of the nature or uſe of an Hoſpital; the Brethren received into the Houſe being weak and infirm in body, but no way diſeaſed or infected, ſo not coming under the deſcription of an Hoſpital, according to the terms of Clement's conſtitution; and that the Maſter has the free adminiſtration of all the poſſeſſions and goods belonging to it, with the burthen only of making a certain diſtribution to a certain number of poor, both within and without the houſe.

Upon this Plea, by the help of all the cavils and evaſions, that the forms of Law could ſupply them with, the Maſters contrived to protract the ſuit through a great number of hearings for almoſt a year and a half; when the Biſhop's Commiſſaries proceeded to give ſentence[a]: that the Maſters had not proved their

[a] Feb. 23, 1372-3.

allega-

allegations, and ought to be compelled by Eccleſiaſtical Cenſures to give an account of their adminiſtration.

Againſt this whole proceeding, before ſentence was pronounced, Roger de Cloune appealed to the Pope. The Biſhop at the ſame time writes to the Pope: repreſenting to him the whole ſtate of the caſe, and that Cloune deſigned by his Appeal to ſet on foot an endleſs ſuit, that in the mean time he might with impunity embezzle and convert to his own uſe the goods and revenues of the Hoſpital; and begs his Holineſs to interpoſe. The [3] Pope, rejecting the Appeal of Cloune, takes the cauſe into his own hands, and conſtitutes the Biſhop of London his Delegate and Judge in it. Before him the Maſters appear by their Proctors. Roger de Cloune excepts againſt the juriſdiction of the Biſhop of London, and the Pope's Bulle, as ſurreptitiouſly obtained, and upon an unfair ſtate of the caſe. Edyngdon joins in the exception. Stowell and Lyntesford, who in the whole were much leſs obnoxious, who had before ſubmitted themſelves abſolutely to the Biſhop of Wincheſter's will and diſpoſal, upon oath and under the penalty each of 100l, and had made a formal denunciation to him

[3] Feb. 25, 1372-3.

of

of Cloune's illegal practices, refuſe to join in it.

After many hearings, adjournments, altercations upon the exception, and ſubterfuges of all ſorts, the Biſhop charges the preſent Maſter with Dilapidation, Diſſipation, and Subſtraction, public and notorious, of the goods of the Hoſpital; and petitions, that they may be ſequeſtered, while the cauſe ſhall be depending: the ſequeſtration is iſſued, and the Biſhop orders, that the poor be provided for as uſual. He had ſome time before appointed a Coadjutor to Cloune, without whoſe advice and conſent he was not to act; and ſtrictly commanded him to abſtain from all ſort of alienation of the Hoſpital's goods for the future. Cloune ſeems to have procured the Maſterſhip with no other deſign than to enrich himſelf with the plunder of the Hoſpital. He knew the hazard he run of being obliged to refund; but let Law and Juſtice do their worſt, he thought he ſhould find his account in it in the end. He therefore at firſt ſeized upon the whole revenues and ſtock of the Hoſpital, as his property; he ſold the corn and the cattle, and a great quantity of materials, that had been laid in for repairs, and converted the money to his own uſe: while the ſuit was depending, he had the impudence to pull down the larder of the Hoſpital,

tal, and to ſell the materials. Indeed it was now of no uſe: the Great Hall was fallen in; the Hundred Poor were turned away; and the thirteen Brethren were forced to quit the Hoſpital, and provide for themſelves where they could.

The [4] Judge proceeds at laſt to the definitive ſentence: That the Biſhop hath ſufficiently proved his libel againſt the Maſters. Roger de Cloune is condemned in coſts of ſuit: 50l. is demanded, as the Biſhop's expences, given in upon oath by his Proctor, which the Judge moderates to 44l. Cloune was willing to try if it was not ſtill poſſible to protract the affair, and appealed again to the court of Rome: his appeal ſeems to have been rejected there: for next [5] year he appears before the Biſhop of London, and profeſſing himſelf better informed, gives up his cauſe, renounces his appeal, and ſubmits to the ſentence: and then obliges himſelf by oath to give an inventory, and render an account of his adminiſtration annually to the Biſhop of Wincheſter, when he ſhall be called upon ſo to do. Upon which he is abſolved from all ſentences of excommunication pronounced againſt him for contumacy, and

[4] Dec. 5, 1373.
[5] Jan. 11, 1374.

injoined

injoined for penance, to obſerve his oath of obeying the orders of the Church in this behalf [6].

It ſeems to have been a cuſtom at this time, for the Maſter of St. Croſs to conſtitute a Deputy, who preſided at the Hoſpital for him: ſuch was one William de Caſtleford, Rector of St. Pancras Wincheſter, who was Cloune's agent and miniſter in all his iniquities there. He had been ſo deeply engaged in this affair, that he thought it proper to abſent himſelf upon the occaſion. The Biſhop, as he could not reach him otherwiſe, proceeded againſt him, and excommunicated him, for non-reſidence.

[6] In the Biſhop of Wincheſter's MS. fol. 56. it is ſaid, that Roger de Cloune renounced his appeal, and relinquiſhed the Hoſpital: ("appellationem ſuam deſeruit, & renuntiavit eidem, "ac dictum hoſpitale habuit pro derelicto:") upon which the Biſhop collated to it Nicholas de Wykeham Clerk, who afterward reſigned it. Agreeably to which, the Reſignation of the Hoſpital of St. Croſs by Nicholas de Wykeham is entered in Wykeham's Regiſter, under the year 1382; and in this MS. fol. 30. But this paſſage of the MS. above cited, is corrected in the margin (probably by John de Campeden, the next Maſter of St. Croſs) to the following effect: "That upon Cloune's "relinquiſhing the Hoſpital, the Biſhop kept it in his own "hands, and under his own government, for nine years, two "weeks, and five days. And whereas Nicholas de Wykeham "was by ſome reputed to have been collated to the ſaid Hoſpi-"tal, when in reality he never had been ſo collated; on this

It

It is not to be doubted, but that the Biſhop of Wincheſter, after having purſued this affair ſo earneſtly for above ſix years, and having at laſt overcome all obſtructions, called the delinquents to a ſevere account, and perfectly reinſtated the Hoſpital in all its rights, and reeſtabliſhed its primitive uſe and inſtitution. While the diſpute was depending, he [7] recovered for the Hoſpital many original charters, bulles, and inſtruments, which had been ſuffered to remain in the hands of the Hoſpitallers of St. John of Jeruſalem. He took care ever after [8] to inſert in the act of collation of the Maſterſhip of this and all other Hoſpitals the

" account, the Biſhop cauſed him to renounce all right and title " which he might ſeem to have had to the ſaid Hoſpital." From which I collect, that the Biſhop found it neceſſary to keep the Maſterſhip, by a kind of Sequeſtration, in his own hands, Cloune ſtill continuing in legal poſſeſſion of it, in order to recover the Hoſpital, its buildings, eſtates, and revenues, out of that ſtate of ruin and diſſipation, to which the preſent and late Maſters had reduced it; and that he employed his kinſman Nicholas de Wykeham, a perſon of approved diligence, abilities, and integrity, in the whole management of this difficult buſineſs. He afterwards, upon the death of Cloune, which happened on the 8th of September, 1382, (MS. Harleian. N°. 1616. p. 95.) conferred the Maſterſhip on John de Campeden, one in whom he had likewiſe the greateſt confidence; having for many years had experience of his fidelity in affairs of importance.

[7] MS. penes Dom. Epiſc. Wint. fol. 120. & MS. Harleian, N° 1616. p. 4.

[8] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 1. paſſim.

Maſter's obligation to obey the conſtitution of Clement the Vth. In a word, he ſo far reſtored this charity to its original deſign, and left it under ſuch due regulation, that his immediate ſucceſſor Beaufort, having reſolved to diſpoſe of ſome part of his great wealth to the like purpoſes, choſe rather to make an enlargement of this inſtitution, than to erect a new one of his own. He [9] made a very great additional endowment of the Hoſpital of St. Croſs, for the maintenance of two Prieſts, thirty-five Brethren, and three Siſters, beſide thoſe of the antient foundation. He gave his new eſtabliſhment the name of [1] The Alms-houſe of Noble Poverty; by which it appears, that he deſigned it for the relief of decayed Gentlemen. The Hoſpital, though much diminiſhed in its revenues, by what means I cannot ſay, yet ſtill ſubſiſts upon the remains of both endowments.

[9] Henry the VIth, in conſideration of the ſum of 13359 marks paid to him by Cardinal Beaufort, granted to him ſeveral manors, &c. of the yearly value of 500 l. with licence to aſſign them to the Maſter and Brethren of St. Croſs. With theſe the Cardinal endowed the Hoſpital in the year 1444, adding to them the impropriations of Grendale, and ſeveral other Churches of his Dioceſe and patronage. Mon. Ang. Vol. 2. p. 480. Leger-book of the Ch. of Wincheſter. N° 1. fol. 66.

[1] "Domus Elemoſinaria Nobilis Paupertatis." Leger-Book of the Church of Wincheſter. N° 1. fol. 66.

The

The Biſhop was warned by the great abuſes which he had ſeen at St. Croſs, to keep a more watchful eye upon other charities of the ſame nature. While he had that affair upon his hands, he held a viſitation[2] of the Hoſpital of St. Thomas Southwerk; ſtill proceeding upon the conſtitution of Clement the Vth. Afterward he viſited[3] the Hoſpital of Sandon in the county of Surry. Whatever irregularities he might find there, he met with no reſiſtance to his authority.

At the ſame time that Wykeham was thus engaged in the reformation of theſe charitable inſtitutions, he was forming the plan of a much more noble and extenſive foundation of his own, and taking his meaſures for putting it in execution. He had long reſolved to diſpoſe of the wealth, which the Divine Providence had ſo abundantly beſtowed upon him, to ſome charitable uſe and for the public good; but was greatly embarraſſed when he came to fix his choice upon ſome deſign, that was likely to prove moſt beneficial, and leaſt liable to abuſe. He tells us[4] himſelf, that upon this occaſion

[2] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. a. fol. 62. dated Jan. 21, 1371-2.
[3] Ibid. fol. 116. dated Nov. 2, 1374.
[4] Statut. Coll. Oxon. & Wint.

he diligently examined and conſidered the various rules of the religious orders, and compared with them the lives of their ſeveral profeſſors; but was obliged with grief to declare, that he could not any where find, that the ordinances of their Founders, according to their true deſign and intention, were at preſent obſerved by any of them. This reflection affected him greatly, and inclined him to take the reſolution of diſtributing his riches to the poor with his own hands, rather than to employ them in eſtabliſhing an inſtitution, which might become a ſnare and an occaſion of guilt to thoſe, for whoſe benefit it ſhould be deſigned. After much deliberation, and devout invocation of the Divine aſſiſtance, conſidering how greatly the number of the Clergy had been of late reduced by continual wars and frequent peſtilences[5], he

[5] The great Plague, which raged in England for five months only in the beginning of the year 1349, is ſaid by the hiſtorians to have ſwept away almoſt one half of the people, and nine parts out of ten of the Clergy. It carried off whole families together, and left none remaining. In the Hoſpital of Sandon in the county of Surry, the Maſter and Brethren, every one of them, died of it. Regiſt. Edyngdon, part 1. fol. 49. The pariſh Churches were for the moſt part deſerted, and left without divine ſervice: at Oxford the ſchools were ſhut, and the ſcholars diſperſed themſelves or died. Afterward, out of mere neceſſity, great numbers of illiterate laymen, who had loſt their wives in the plague, though they could hardly read, much leſs underſtand, the common ſervice, were admitted into Holy Orders.

deter-

determined at laſt to endeavour to remedy, as far as he was able, this deſolation of the Church, by relieving poor ſcholars in their clerical education; and to eſtabliſh two Colleges of Students, for the honour of God and increaſe of his worſhip, for the ſupport and exaltation of the Chriſtian Faith, and for the improvement of the liberal Arts and Sciences; hoping and truſting, that men of letters and various knowlege, and bred up in the fear of God, would ſee more clearly, and attend more ſtrictly to the obligation lying upon them to obſerve the rules

In 1361, there was another called the ſecond or Leſs Plague, which ſwept away great numbers of the common people, many of the Nobility, and ſeven of the Biſhops. Knyghton, Walſingham, Harding's Chronicle, Harpsfield, Parker, Ant. Wood. There was a third Plague in the year 1368. See Wilkins, Conc. Mag. Brit. Vol. 3. p. 74. Hollinſhed ſays there was another in the year 1370, particularly at Oxford. The Monk of Eveſham, in the Life of Rich. II. (publiſhed by Hearn) ſays there was another in the years 1381 and 1382, which he calls the Fifth Plague. The Parliament of 1376, in their remarkable petition againſt the oppreſſions of the Pope, repreſented to the King, "That ſince the good antient cuſtoms of Piety and Charity had "been perverted, and Covetouſneſs and Simony increaſed, the "kingdom had been full of adverſities, as Wars, Peſtilence, "Famine, Murain, whereby it was ſo much deſtroyed that there "was not the third part of the people left." See Brady's Appendix to Hiſt. of Eng. Vol. II. N° 100. Archbiſhop Iſlip gives the ſame reaſons for his founding Canterbury Hall in Oxford. See his Statutes in Wilkins's Conc. Mag. Brit. Vol. 3. p. 52.

and directions, which he ſhould give them. Wykeham ſeems to have come to this reſolution, and in ſome meaſure to have formed in his mind his general Plan, as early as his becoming Biſhop of Winchester: for we find[6], that in little more than two years after, he had made purchaſes of ſeveral parcels of ground in the City of Oxford, which make the chief part of the ſite of his College there. His College of Winchester, intended as a nurſery for that of Oxford, was part of his original plan: for as early as the year 1373, before he proceeded any further in his deſign for the latter, he eſtabliſhed a ſchool at Winchester, of the ſame kind with the former, and for the ſame purpoſe. He agreed[7] with Richard Herton, that for ten years, beginning from Michaelmaſs of the year abovementioned, he ſhould diligently inſtruct in Grammatical Learning as many poor ſcholars as the Biſhop ſhould ſend to him, and no others without his leave; that the Biſhop ſhould provide and allow him a proper aſſiſtant; and that Herton, in caſe of his own illneſs, or neceſſary abſence, ſhould ſubſtitute a proper Maſter to ſupply his place.

[6] Ant. Wood. Hiſt. Univ. Oxon. lib. 2. p. 128. where he gives a minute and particular account of theſe purchaſes.

[7] See Appendix, N° VII.

Wykeham's

Wykeham's munificence proceeded always from a conſtant generous principle, a true ſpirit of liberality. It was not owing to a caſual impulſe, or a ſudden emotion, but was the effect of mature deliberation and prudent choice. His enjoyment of riches conſiſted in employing them in acts of beneficence; and while they were increaſing upon him, he was continually deviſing proper means of diſpoſing of them for the good of the public: not delaying it till the time of his death, when he could keep them no longer; nor leaving to the care of others what he could better execute himſelf; but forming his good deſigns early, and as ſoon as he had the ability, putting them in execution, that he might have the ſatisfaction of ſeeing the beneficial effects of them; and that by conſtant obſervation and due experience he might from time to time improve and perfect them, ſo as to render them yet more beneficial.

THE LIFE OF WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM.

SECTION IV.

His troubles in the laſt year of Edward III.

WHILE Wykeham was purſuing theſe generous deſigns, and was now prepared to carry them into execution, he was on a ſudden attacked by a party formed againſt him at court, in ſuch a manner, as not only obliged him to lay them aſide for the preſent, but might have reduced him to an inability of ever reſuming them. The accounts which are given us of this whole affair by later writers, are either ſo falſe, ſo imperfect, or ſo confuſed, both as to matters of fact and their cauſes, that in order to clear it up, it will be neceſſary, wholly

wholly diſregarding whatever they have advanced without ſufficient proof, to lay together all the circumſtances relating to it, of which there remains any undoubted teſtimony.

Upon [1] the return of the Prince of Wales to England, on account of his declining ſtate of health, in the year 1371, the Duke of Lancaſter was ſent into Aquitaine, and had the chief management of the war in France committed to him; which detained him there, for the moſt part, till the middle of the year 1374; when a truce being made, which was afterward prolonged from time to time, he returned, and took up his reſidence at the court of England. The King was now declining, and the Prince of Wales's caſe deſperate: the Duke therefore, being the next ſurviving ſon of the King, looked upon himſelf as the perſon to whom the ſole management of affairs in the preſent ſituation of right belonged. However, he ſeems not to have had influence enough with the King his father to gain his point, without the aſſiſtance of Alice Perrers, who now for ſome years had been conſidered as the King's Miſtreſs, and had certainly gotten a very great aſcendant over him. Taking this Lady into his party, and making uſe of her power, he

[1] T. Walſingham. Collins's Life of the Black Prince.

in

in effect [2] got into his own hands the administration of all affairs: he assumed to himself a very extraordinary degree of authority, and abused it to many ill purposes. It is certain, that both from his known ambitious temper, and his behaviour on this occasion, the whole nation suspected, that he carried his views further than the present power, of which he had possessed himself; and had formed a design [3] of setting aside his young nephew, and seizing the

[2] Walsingham, Parker, &c.

[3] The Duke of Lancaster himself complained, in the first Parliament of Richard II. that the Commons had spread such reports of him, as, if true, amounted to open treason; "& que "teilles paroles avoient longement volez parmi le Royaume "fauxement." Rot. Parl. 1 R. 2. Tit. 14. The same opinion of the Duke of Lancaster's designs seems to have prevailed likewise in France. See Monach. Evesham, in Vita Rich. II. Edit. Hearn. p. 3. In MS. Harleian. N°. 6217, it is said, that the Duke of Lancaster proposed to the Parliament (51. Ed. 2.) to deliberate, who ought to succeed to the Crown after the late Prince of Wales's son; and that they should make a law, that no woman should be heir to the kingdom: (see also Parker. Antiq. Brit. Eccl. an. 1376.) "For he consydered the old age "of the kynge,——and the youth of the princes sonne; whom, "as it was sayed, he purposed to poysen, yf he coulde no other-"wise come by the kyngdom." Chap. 8. Such accusations are commonly thrown out, and the public are but too ready to admit the truth of them, on the like occasions. However, these testimonies sufficiently prove, all that is intended to be proved by them; that the nation in general had conceived violent suspicions of the Duke of Lancaster's ill designs in regard to the Succession.

Crown,

Crown, when the opportunity ſhould offer, which now ſeemed near at hand.

The Prince of Wales, who knew perfectly well his brother's ambition, and could not but obſerve the advances which he made, was alarmed with apprehenſions of the danger which threatened his ſon. He reſolved therefore to uſe his utmoſt endeavours to obſtruct the Duke of Lancaſter's deſigns, to break the party which he had formed at court, and to get all that belonged to it removed from the King's perſon. The Parliament, which after two years intermiſſion met in the latter end of April 1376, gave him a proper opportunity of effecting all that he intended.

As [4] ſoon as the Parliament was opened, the Commons, having held a conference with the Lords, renewed for three years longer the ſubſidies granted in the laſt Parliament, which were now near the term of their expiration; but deſired to be excuſed making any further grant, on account of the diſtreſſes of the times; unleſs any extraordinary caſe ſhould happen, in which they would aid the King to the utmoſt of their ability. They then petition him, that he would be pleaſed to augment his Council to the number of ten or twelve of the chief Lords

[4] Rot. Parl. 50. Ed. III.

and

and Prelates, who ſhould be continually near his perſon, ſo that, without the advice and conſent of ſix, or at leaſt four of them, no buſineſs ſhould be concluded. To this requeſt, under ſome reſtrictions, the King gave his aſſent: nine Lords and Prelates were appointed[5]; of which number was the Biſhop of Wincheſter: the three great officers of ſtate added, I ſuppoſe, to theſe, as uſual, formed the council of twelve, of which hiſtorians ſpeak.

The

[5] In MS. Harleian. N°. 247, fol. 143, is a fragment of ſome hiſtorical notes, the hand and age uncertain, perhaps about 200 years old. After having mentioned the complaints in Parliament againſt Lord Latimer, Alice Perrers, &c. the author proceeds, as follows: "Anno 1376.——Divers of the nobilitie "went to the King to perſwade hym to remove them from his "councell; which was done ac[cordingly,] and newe counſellers appointed: who were the archbyſhop of Canterberye, "the byſhopps of Londone and Wyncheſter, the earls of Arundell, Marche, and Stafforde, and the lordes Percye, Brian, "and Beauchampe. Who having auctorytie by the King put "out of the councell the lorde Latimer, Johne lorde Nevill, "Sir Richarde Stafforde, and dame Alice Perers, taking an othe "of the king, that he ſholde never more re[ceive them into] "his companye." This paſſage is of importance, as it ſtrongly confirms the account, which I had before given, of the political cauſe of the perſecution raiſed againſt the Biſhop of Wincheſter by the Duke of Lancaſter. That this writer had good authority for the liſt which he gives of the Council appointed by petition of Parliament, cannot well be doubted. It appears alſo from hence, that Lord Percy, during this Parliament, was one of the Duke of Lancaſter's oppoſers: he was ſoon after gained over to his

The Commons moreover, making proteſtation of their due allegiance to the King, declared, that if he had had faithful Counſellors and Officers, he could not but have been exceeding rich in treaſure, and would have been under no neceſſity of charging his people with ſubſidies; conſidering the great ſums of money, that had been brought into the kingdom, by the ranſoms of the Kings of France and Scotland, and of other priſoners and countries. They demand therefore, that the frauds and extortions

his intereſt; probably by means of the ſtaff of marſhal of England conferred upon him. This conjecture likewiſe I ſince find fully confirmed by MS. Harleian. N°. 6217. The author ſays, "That the lorde Percye was one on the knyghtes parte,—— "and at the fyrſte had a burnyng deſyre to apprehend the trayetours of the realme; and I wolde to God he had contynued in "the ſayme unto the end." Chap. 4. And after having told, "how the earl of Marſhe ſhunned the craftye deceites of the "Duke of Lancaſter," by giving up his marſhallſhip; he adds, "The Duke, rejoſynge that he myght with ſome honour rewarde "Syr Henrye Percye, preſently gave unto hym the rodd, and "maid hym marſhall of England; and by this meanes yt ys "playne, that the ſayed Syr Henrye Percye haith alwayes joyned "faſt to the Duke, and hys counceils; wherefore notwithſtandynge, he hath a longe tyme incurred as great hatred of "the whoale comunaltye, as he hath gotten favour and love of "the Duke, and that whiche he beleaved was an ineſtimable "profett and commodytye and ſholde be an infynyte glorye he "perceaved to be the begynnynge of all myſcheyſe & evill "againſt hym, and ſodenly to bring him perpetual ignomynye; "for he loſt, as ys ſayed, hys conſcyence and hys good name "with the people of the whoale realme." Chap. 16.

tortions of certain private perſons about the King, and others of their confederacy, may be ſtrictly inquired into: of which they make a particular declaration under three heads. Firſt, of ſuch private perſons about the King, and their confederates, as procured ſtaple-ware and bullion to be conveyed to other places than Calais, for their own profit, and to the great detriment of the King and Kingdom. Secondly, of ſuch as by conſent and contrivance of the ſaid perſons about the King, made agreement for divers ſums of money for the King's uſe upon uſury, making him pay much higher intereſt than they bargained for. Thirdly, of ſuch as in confederacy with the ſame perſons, bargained with the King's creditors for the tenth, twentieth, or hundredth penny, and then procured the King to pay the whole debt, for their own profit, and to the defrauding both of the King and of his creditors. Upon theſe and ſome other articles many perſons were impeached and convicted: the principal of whom were the Lord Latimer, then Lord Chamberlain, who [6] had the greateſt ſhare of the Duke of Lancaſter's friendſhip and confidence, and Alice Perrers. Latimer was impriſoned and fined, and rendered incapable of bearing any

[6] Parker,

office

office under the King. Alice Perrers was baniſhed from Court, and an ordinance made with particular reſpect to her, That no woman, eſpecially Alice Perrers, ſhould ſolicite or proſecute any buſineſs in the King's Courts by way of maintenance, on pain of forfeiture and baniſhment out of the kingdom. And Hiſtorians[7] affirm, that the Duke of Lancaſter himſelf was with the reſt removed from about the King's perſon, in conſequence of theſe remonſtrances of Parliament; which were very well underſtood to be aimed at him, as they included his chief friends and dependents; though out of regard to his high quality, or dread of his power, no one ventured perſonally to attack him, or expreſsly to mention his name upon the occaſion.

The whole management and conduct of this proſecution was undertaken, in the houſe of Commons, by Sir Peter de la Mare; and it was carried on by him, not only with great ſpirit and zeal, but with ſingular abilities and eloquence. He was a Knight of Herefordſhire, and was[8] Steward to Edmund Mortimer Earl of March. The Earl of March had married

[7] Walſingham, &c.

[8] Stow. MS. Harleian. N°. 6217. Chap. 16.

Philippa,

Philippa, only child of Lionel Duke of Clarence, the Duke of Lancaſter's elder brother; and conſequently his wife Philippa, or after her his eldeſt ſon by her, was indiſputably next heir to the Crown after young Richard. His ſituation therefore in the preſent juncture was nearly the ſame with that of the Prince of Wales, and he was proportionably concerned to ſecure the rights of his own family againſt the ſuſpected deſigns of the Duke of Lancaſter. So that the chief end and principal aim of this proſecution, though not expreſsly declared in Parliament, yet could not but be ſufficiently underſtood by the whole nation, from its being favoured by the Prince of Wales and his friends, and its being moved and conducted by a friend and dependent of the Earl of March. And the cauſe was ſo popular, and the ſeverity, which the Parliament exerciſed againſt all of the Duke of Lancaſter's party, ſo agreeable to the ſenſe of the whole nation, that this Parliament was afterward diſtinguiſhed by the name of the [9] Good Parliament.

On the 8th of June, before the Parliament had finiſhed its ſeſſion, died the Prince of Wales; one of the greateſt heroes, and the

[9] Walſingham.

moſt

moſt truly deſerving of that name, that ever this, or any other nation produced; and what is more, the beſt and moſt amiable of men. He had always had [1] a great regard for the Biſhop of Wincheſter, who was zealouſly attached to his ſervice: and he now gave him an indubitable teſtimony of his eſteem and affection, by appointing him one [2] of the executors of his Will. The Biſhop received ſome years afterward the [3] ſame mark of confidence from his worthy conſort the Princeſs Dowager of Wales, with particular expreſſions of the friendſhip and affectionate regard, which ſhe bore towards him. The Prince of Wales's will was ſigned only the day before he died; from which circumſtance we may conclude, that though the Prince had been long ſenſible that he was drawing near his end, yet he was not altogether in a dying condition, nor ſo far diſabled, but

[1] "Nec non revolventes oculos mentis noſtræ—ad magnum "locum quem [idem Epiſcopus Wynton.] præfato Domino & "Patri noſtro in ſuis agendis diverſimode tenuit, & ad ſpecialem "affectionem & ſinceram dilectionem, quas idem pater noſter "erga præfatum Epiſcopum geſſit & habuit, dum ageret in "humanis."———Clauſe in the pardon granted to Wykeham by Richard II. Rymer, Fœd. Vol. 7th. p. 163.

[2] Regiſt. Sudbury. Fol. 91.

[3] Regiſt. Courtney. Fol. 214 ——"Venerabiles in Chriſto "Patres & Amicos meos cariſſimos dominos Robertum Conſan-"guineum meum Dei gratia London. & Wilhelmum eadem "gratia Wynton. Epiſc. &c." Dated Aug. 7th, 1385.

that he could attend to the motions and proceeding of the Parliament, who in their opposition to the Duke of Lancaster and his party acted all along in conjunction with him, and were supported by his credit and authority. Though the Prince lived not to see the conclusion of the Parliament, yet his friends sufficiently secured for him the point, which he had

* Walsingham. An author, who probably wrote before Walsingham, says likewise the same thing. He gives the following account of the transactions of this Parliament. "In "principio mensis Maii fecit Rex Edwardus maximum Parlia- "mentum apud Westmonast. celebrari, in quo more solito a com- "munitate quoddam Subsidium petiit sibi concedi pro defensione "sui et regni. Et communitas respondit, cotidie eos fore tali- "bus exactionibus aggravatos, nec tale onus diu posse ferre "dicebant. Nam liquide eis constabat regem pro defensione "regni et sui sufficienter habere, si regnum foret bene et fideli- "ter gubernatum. Sed quamdiu tale regimen per malos officia- "rios in regno haberetur, nequaquam copia rerum aut divitiis "possit habundare. Hæc itaque & alia se offerebant certissime "probaturos. Et si post probationem hujusmodi repertum esset "Regem ulterius indigere, ipsum libenter juxta eorum facultа- "tes juvarent. Postea vero publicata fuerunt multa mala de "Duce Lancastriæ & de diversis aliis officiariis regi jugiter assis- "tentibus, & potissime de Domino de Latymer ipsius Camerario, "super pessima gubernatione regis et regni. Tandem de qua- "dam Alicia Peres inibi multum tractabator super ejus mala- "ficiis quæ per eam & ejus fautores ubique in regno siebant. "Rex enim eam per multa tempora tenuerat concubinam, unde, "liberius potuisset, feminea fragilitate pensata, ad tam insania, "& nepharia declinare. Idcirco omnes tales regni communitas "petiit amoveri, et viros nobiles approbatos sapientes et valen-

principally

principally aimed at: for upon his death the Commons immediately petitioned the King, that Richard of Bourdeaux, his ſon, might be brought into Parliament, that they might ſee and honour him as heir apparent of the Kingdom; and they further petitioned, together with the Lords, that he might be declared

" tes loco eorum proinde ſubrogari. Erat namque inter illos de " communitate quidam miles ſapiens verax & facundus nomine " Petrus Delamare, in cujus ore omnium pendebat ſententia; " hic vero quia contra dictam Aliciam & quoſdam alios de con- " ſilio Regis quædam enormia veraciter in publicum deduxiſſet, " multum confidens in hac materia de ſupportatione & favore " Domini Principis: ſed eo cito poſt mortuo ad inſtantiam præ- " fatæ mulieris apud Nottingham perpetuo carceri adjudicatur." Chronicon Angliæ ad Hen. IV. MS. Lambeth. N° 340. " And " that time (ſays another antient writer) the comyns had choſen " a wurthy Knight and a wiſe clepid Sir Peris Dalamare " Speker of the Parlement for the comyns, which Peris told and " publiſhid the trouth and reherſed many wronges ageynes the " forefaid Alice and other certeyne perſones of the Kingis coun- " ſail as he was bedden by the comyns. And he ſuppoſid to " have ben mayntened by the Prince." Chronicle of England, 1 Hen. VI. MS. Lambeth, N° 6. The Duke of Lancaſter's friends repreſent to him, " what helpes the Knyghtes have to " underſhore them; for they have the favour and love of the " lordes, and ſpecially of the lorde Edwarde prince your bro- " ther, who gyveth them hys counſayle and aide effectuallye." MS. Harleian. N° 6217. Chap. 1. The ſame author ſays afterwards, " that the Duke, fearynge the majeſtye of the Prince, " whom he knew to favour the people and knyghtes, with judi- " ciall ſentence depryved the lorde Latymer of hys office." Chap. 5.

[1] Rot. Parl. 50. Ed. 3. tit. 40.

Prince of Wales; with both which requests the King very readily complied.

The Parliament[6] was no sooner dismissed in the beginning of July, than all their vigorous proceedings and decrees against the delinquents fell to the ground, for want of that authority to support them, by which they had been hitherto carried on. The Duke of Lancaster, now no longer restrained by respect of the great Prince of Wales, or of the Parliament, returned immediately to court, and reassumed the administration of affairs; and with him returned the Lord Latimer, Alice Perrers, and the rest, that had been for ever banished from the King's presence. They in a manner took possession again of the King, who lay at Eltham, oppressed at once with age, grief, and sickness, and utterly unable to withstand their importunity. They procured the council of twelve, which had been appointed by petition of the Commons in parliament, to be discharged. In a word, they saw themselves in a condition, not only to maintain their ground, but to wreak their vengeance on their enemies. They began with Sir Peter de la Mare, who had been the first mover and chief conductor

[6] Walsingham, &c. MS. Harleian. N° 6217.

of

of the petition and proceedings againſt them in the late parliament, and by an extraordinary act of power, [7] got him committed priſoner to the caſtle of Nottingham. His patron the Earl of March was conſidered as the real author and promoter of every thing that he had done, and ſoon received an intimation of the diſpleaſure that was conceived againſt him. Orders were ſent to him by the Duke of Lancaſter, in the King's name, to go and ſurvey the Caſtle, Town, and Marches of Calais. He ſaw that this commiſſion was deſigned only to remove him out of the way, and perhaps to bring him into difficulties, of which advantage might be taken againſt him: he therefore declined the office, at the ſame time reſigning his Staff of Marſhal of England; which the Duke immediately conferred upon the Lord Percy. The Biſhop of Wincheſter was another principal object of their reſentment. It is not to be doubted, but that upon this ſignal occaſion he had ſtedfaſtly adhered to the intereſt of his

[7] "Whom" (ſays the author of MS. Harleian. N° 6217, Chap. 14.) "without any anſweare againſt all juſtyce they ſent "to the caſtle of Newercke, there to be comytted to pryſon: "and there were that ſayed, that the Duke gave commaund-"ment to behead hym in the next wood; and ſo he ſholde have "bene, had not Syr Henrye Percye perſuaded the Duke to the "contrarye."

[8] Stow. MS. Harleian. N° 6217. Chap. 16.

great friend and patron the Prince of Wales; and at the ſame time to the intereſts of the King, his kind maſter and generous benefactor; and to the intereſts of the public; which were indeed all equally concerned in the ſecurity of the lineal ſucceſſion: and moſt probably he had acted with ſo open and unreſerved a zeal in this juſt and important cauſe, as could not but give offence to the Duke of Lancaſter. The Duke was, in effect, moſt highly incenſed againſt him, and determined to make him feel the whole weight of his reſentment, and the full force of his power. However, he could not attempt to oppreſs a Prelate in an arbitrary way, and without any colour of law, as he had acted with regard to Sir Peter de la Mare: he therefore procured articles of accuſation to be brought againſt the Biſhop, by [9] certain perſons whoſe names are not tranſmitted down to us, for divers crimes committed by him during his adminiſtration of affairs: theſe [1] were exhibited againſt him about the beginning of the next Michaelmas term; and are in ſubſtance as follows [2].

[9] "Cum——Epiſcop. Wynton. ex informatione quorundam "impoſiti fuiſſent articuli ſubſequentes."——Rymer, Fœd. Vol. 7th. p. 163 & 168.

[1] Ibid. p. 132, 148, 163, 168.

[2] Ibid. p. 163, &c.

1. That

1. That after the peace was made with France, the Biſhop of Winchester had the diſpoſal and management of all the King's revenues, both at home and beyond ſea, with all the ſubſidies granted by Parliament, and the ſums received for the ranſoms of the King of France, of the country of Burgundy, and of the King of Scotland; which receipts, reckoning for eight years, during the whole time that Simon Langham late Archbiſhop of Canterbury, and John Barnet Biſhop of Ely, were treaſurers of England, (namely, from the 26th day of November 1361, to the year 1369) amount to 1,109,600 l. ſterling; beſides 100,000 francs received from Galeazzo Duke of Milan, and all the King's goods; which for the moſt part have not been applied to the profit of the King and Kingdom. And when the peace had laſted ten years, and the ſecond year began, the King's treaſury was found almoſt empty, and the King in great ſtreights was forced to burthen his ſubjects with ſubſidies and loans: and all this was in conſequence of the bad management of the ſaid Biſhop.

2. That the ſaid Biſhop, without regard to God, or equity, or the laws of the realm, cauſed Matthew de Gourney, Thomas Fog, John Seyntlowe, Degory Sees, Robert D'Eues,

and many others, who in the King's wars had behaved well against the enemy, to be fined and ranſomed, to the inestimable damage of the King and Kingdom, in that all the ſoldiers, when they heard of this miſpriſion, entered into companies, and made war in France, which occaſioned the renewing of the war, and other bad conſequences.

3. That the ſaid Biſhop being Keeper of the Privy Seal, Chief of the Privy Council, and Governor of the Great Council, cauſed the hoſtages of the King of France, and particularly the Dukes of Orleans, Berry, Anjou, and Bourbon, and many others, to be releaſed and ſet at liberty, for his own profit; though the late Prince of Wales had often written, both to the King and to the ſaid Biſhop, to have them kept carefully and ſecurely; that if this had been done, the war would not have happened.

4. That when the Officers of Ponthieu had given timely notice of the neceſſity of ſending ſuccours into that country to prevent the loſs of it, the ſaid Biſhop put off the meſſengers with words, and took no care about it; ſo that by his negligence, in not ordering a proper remedy, that country was loſt.

5. That in the year 1369, John the ſon of John Boulewas, having been guilty of acquiring

quiring lands without licence, was fined in 100 l. to the King for his pardon: and the ſaid Biſhop cauſed the fine to be leſſened by 20 l. as appears by the memorandum of its enrollment.

6. That it having appeared by an inquiſition, that John de Kirketon had intruded himſelf into the caſtle of Tatenhale, the manor of Tomby, and other lands, of which John de Dryby died poſſeſſed, and had held the ſaid caſtle and lands for ſo long time, that the rents and profits of them amounted to above 8,000 marks, which ought to have been placed to the King's account, as the ſaid caſtle was held of him in chief; the ſaid Biſhop cauſed the King to remit all the ſaid rents and profits, for his own private advantage, without taking or receiving any thing on that account from the ſaid John de Kirketon for the King's benefit.

7. That when John de Barnet Biſhop of Ely was treaſurer of England, the ſaid Biſhop of Wincheſter, by his own authority, and without warrant, cauſed to be taken out of the King's treaſury the ſum of 10,000 marks for buying Tallies, on the King's account, as he affirmed; which ſum remained in his hands two years and more, and then he returned into the treaſury for the ſaid ſum, tallies amounting to 12,500 marks, or thereabout; accounting a

profit

profit of 2,500 marks only [1] to the King; whereas, as he bought every 100l. for 25l., the increaſe and profit to the King ought to have been 27,000 marks.

8. That [2] the ſaid Biſhop, when he was Chancellor, by his own authority, often cauſed fines, after they were enrolled, to be leſſened, and the rolls to be raſed; and in particular, that of John Grey of Retherfeld, who made a fine with the King, in the 41ſt year of his reign, of 80l. for licence of feoffment of certain lands and tenements; which was paid into the hanaper: but the ſaid Biſhop, on pretence of ſome bargain between him and the ſaid John Grey, cauſed the firſt writing to be cancelled, by making another writing of the ſame tenor and date, for a fine of 40l., and made the Clerk of the hanaper repay the other 40l. to the ſaid John Grey, to the defrauding of the King.

It is not to be expected, that at this time much new light ſhould be thrown on many of the particulars of theſe articles: however, on

[1] —— ita quod non reſpondit ad avantagium ipſius Archipoſtri *niſi* de 2500 M. —— the word *niſi* having been omitted by miſtake in Rymer's copy, the paſſage was rendered unintelligible. It is now corrected from an authentic copy.

[2] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 168.

few

few obſervations may ſerve, in a good meaſure, to explain, and ſhew the deſign and force of the moſt important of them.

1. The firſt article is, in effect, the very ſame that was contained in the declaration of the Commons in the laſt Parliament, and was directed againſt the Duke of Lancaſter and his party. The particular abuſes were then inquired into, and ſeveral of that party impeached and convicted, to the general ſatisfaction of the nation. The ſame party, now in power again, transfer the charge, in general terms, from themſelves to the Biſhop of Wincheſter.

Beſide the unreaſonableneſs of charging him with the groſs ſum of the whole public revenue of the King and Kingdom for ſo many years, and even for ſome time before he had borne any office in the ſtate; it appears from the article itſelf, that Wykeham was not properly the perſon reſponſible for it. He never was Treaſurer of England, though it has been affirmed by ſo many authors. Langham and Barnet, ſucceſſively treaſurers during the time in queſtion, were not creatures of his, nor in any wiſe dependent upon him; but perſons of great age and authority before he came into any power at court: nor is it likely, that they ſhould abſolutely and implicitly ſubmit themſelves to him, in the execution of ſo important an office, for which

which they themſelves were ſolely accountable. And Barnet was ſtill living to anſwer for himſelf. Neither is it at all to be wondered, that by an expenſive and ruinous foreign war of above twenty years continuance, the nation was ſo exhauſted, and the King ſo overwhelmed with debt, as not to be able to recover themſelves in an unſettled and imperfect peace of nine years; for it was no more, even the war of Britany, and the Prince of Wales's expedition into Spain, being reckoned as nothing in the account.

2. It is hard to ſay, what is the crime with which the Biſhop is charged in the ſecond article: nothing more appears from it, than that he had either by his influence, or in the regular courſe of his office, cauſed the perſons therein mentioned to be puniſhed and fined; not ſurely for their good behaviour and ſervices in the wars, but, as we may well be allowed to ſuppoſe, for ſome miſdemeanour. It is granted, that theſe gentlemen behaved well in the wars; but did they behave as well in time of truce or peace? Of the firſt of them, Sir Matthew Gourney, it appears [1], that, contrary to the expreſs command of the King his maſter, he

[1] Barnes, Hiſt. of Ed. 3d. p. 675. See Rym. Fœd. Vol. 6. p. 481.

followed

followed Bertrand de Gueſclin into Spain, in the ſervice of Henry the Baſtard, in the year 1366; and of the ſecond, Sir Thomas Fog, that [2] during the truce of Bourdeaux, he made an expedition under the command of the famous Sir Robert Knolles, who was at this time no other than an arrant freebooter. Knolles was actually outlawed upon this occaſion: after the truce was expired, he procured [3] indeed the King's pardon, but not without great ſubmiſſions to his Majeſty, and preſents ſent to the Prince of Wales and his brothers. Fog muſt have been in the ſame ſituation; and ſo came under the deſcription, which the King in his anſwer to the remonſtrances of the court of France gave of theſe adventurers, [4] that they were perſons outlawed, murderers and robbers, delinquents againſt the laws of his realm, and out of his protection. Such were two of theſe Gentlemen: and if we conſider, how common theſe practices were at this time, and what numbers of diſbanded officers purſued the ſame methods of making their fortunes, it will not appear improbable, that the others here men-

[2] See Barnes, p. 562. Hollingſhed, Vol. 3, p. 391. Walſingham, Hyp. Neuſtriæ, ad an. 1358. Caxton, Appendix. Polychron. p. 317.

[3] 2 Knighton. Col. 2620.

[4] Ibid. Col. 2618.

tioned

tioned were offenders in the same way, and were deservedly punished for their lawless behaviour. But whatever their case was, it is not easy to see how their punishment, as is alleged in the article, could be the occasion of the soldiers entering into the Companies, and the cause of the wars being renewed: nor is it possible to conceive, how either of these events could, in any way, even indirectly and by consequence, be charged on the Bishop of Winchester. Indeed nothing can be more certain and notorious, than that both the rising of the companies in France, and the renewing of the war, were to be ascribed to far other causes, and such as could not have any relation to him, or be within the reach of his influence. The [5] rising of the companies is to be dated as early as the truce of Bourdeaux in the year 1357. A few parties of this kind then formed themselves, and made some essays in their trade. But after the peace of Bretigny, they soon grew into regular bodies of men, and even formidable armies. They were made up of disbanded soldiers of different nations, and were prompted by no other motive, than their own lawless desires of enriching themselves by plunder and

5 Froissart, Vol. 1. chap. 214, 215, 244, 246. Walsingham, &c.

rapine.

rapine. They maintained themſelves a long time by ravaging the whole country, and the only effectual method, that France could take of getting rid of them, was to find them employment elſewhere. The Prince of Wales at laſt took twelve thouſand of them into his ſervice for his Spaniſh expedition. Don Pedro was no ſooner reſtored by him to the throne of Caſtile, than he forgot all his engagements to his Benefactor, and left him and his army in the utmoſt diſtreſs, without money or proviſions. The Prince was forced to melt down all his plate to ſupply his immediate occaſions. Six thouſand men of the companies returned with him to Guienne, where, for want of pay, they betook themſelves to their old way of ſubſiſting on plunder. The Prince had influence enough over them, to prevail with them to quit his dominions; upon which they fell upon the neighbouring provinces of France. Great arrears were likewiſe due to his other troops, which obliged him to impoſe new taxes on his ſubjects of Guienne, which occaſioned their revolt. Such was the occaſion of the laſt riſing of the companies; and ſuch was the immediate cauſe of the renewing of the war with France.

3. The third article is wholly founded on the Duke of Bourbon's application to the Pope

on

on Wykeham's behalf, an account of which has been already given. As to the reſt of the Hoſtages, the reader may find an exact account of their releaſe, collected by Rapin from the Records publiſhed by Rymer, in which it does not appear that Wykeham had the leaſt concern. As [6] to thoſe here mentioned in particular, the Duke of Orleans obtained his liberty by ceding certain lands in Poitou to Thomas of Woodſtock, one of the King's ſons. The Dukes of Anjou and Berry, baſely abuſed the King's generoſity and indulgence; the firſt made his eſcape from Calais, and the other, having obtained leave of abſence for one year, never returned; nor did they ever make the leaſt ſatisfaction for this infamous breach of their oath and honour.

4. The [7] ſurpriſing of Ponthieu by the French was an event quite unexpected by Edward III. The firſt intimation, which he had of their deſign, was given him while the King of France's Ambaſſadors were amuſing him with deceitful preſents and empty propoſals. He immediately ordered the Lords Percy and Nevil, and Sir William Wyndeſore, to go

[6] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 6. p. 467. Froiſſart, Vol. 1. chap. 218 and 249.

[7] Froiſſart, Vol. 1. chap. 251, 252. Walſingham. Barnes, p. 737. &c.

thither

thither with all expedition, with three hundred men at arms and one thouſand archers. They had gotten as far as Dover, and were ready to embark; when news came, that the French had taken the City of Abbeville, as it had been determined before by private agreement between them and the inhabitants, who opened their gates to them. The ſame day they made themſelves maſters of the reſt of the towns of Ponthieu, and ſo the whole country was loſt at once. The whole circumſtances of this affair put it beyond all doubt, that there was really no neglect in ſending ſuccours to Ponthieu, upon the firſt notice of the deſigns of the French, chargeable upon any one, much leſs upon the Biſhop of Wincheſter.

5, and 6. Theſe ſeem to be nothing more than common inſtances of the King's generoſity, perverted into articles of accuſation againſt the Biſhop, and are in themſelves of no great importance.

7. The ſeventh article may perhaps require ſome explanation. Theſe Tallies were receipts or ſecurities given to the King's Creditors for Sums of money borrowed. The treaſury was ſo exhauſted by the wars, and the King's credit ſo low, that the Creditors at laſt ſold their Tallies, or ſecurities for the ſums owed to them, at great diſcount. The Biſhop is charged with

having bought up the King's debts with the King's money, and for his profit, at a diſcount of 75 per cent. or for one fourth; and with not having returned the whole profit to the treaſury. As to the fact itſelf, and the circumſtances of it, nothing can now be ſaid; but this charge plainly appears to have been deſigned as a recrimination upon the Biſhop, with reſpect to the third article of inquiry, exhibited by the Commons in the late Parliament.

8. Whether this laſt article was at firſt exhibited againſt Wykeham, together with the foregoing, or was produced afterward, when the former were found deficient in proof, it does not appear. The foregoing articles [a] and this are found ſeparate the one from the other, and in two diſtinct patents of pardon: the firſt containing a remiſſion and full acquittal of the ſeven firſt articles, of which no proof had ever been made, and upon which no judgement was ever given againſt him; the ſecond reciting the laſt article only, upon which ſolely and ſeparately judgement had been given, that his temporalities ſhould be ſeized into the hands of the King, and remitting all the penalties and the conſequences of this judgement. This, however, we may with certainty conclude, that the firſt ſeven articles were dropped, and came to

[a] See Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 163 and 168.

nothing,

nothing, as unſupported by any proof or evidence. His temporalities were adjudged to be ſeized into the King's hands, ſolely upon the charge contained in the laſt Article. So that this mighty accuſation, which ſet out with a charge of above a million, ſoon dwindled into a buſineſs of forty pounds. Upon which article I ſhall only obſerve, that the whole tranſaction ſeems to have been carried on openly, and without any endeavour to keep it a ſecret; that the Chancellor is not charged with having made any profit to himſelf from it, the whole ſum refunded having been paid to the Lord Grey; and that all that appears to be exceptionable in his conduct is the ſeeming irregularity of the proceeding, of which, we may preſume, his enemies took their advantage.

The Biſhop of Wincheſter [9] was heard upon theſe articles before a certain number of Biſhops and Lords, and others of the Privy Council, aſſigned by the King for this purpoſe, about the middle of November. And in conſequence of the judgement given by them upon the laſt article alone, as I have juſt now mentioned, Writs [1] were iſſued from the Exchequer, dated the

[9] See Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 132, 148.

[1] MS. Rym. R. 2. Vol. 1. N°. 22. from Rot. Clauſ. 1. R. 2. pars unica. M. 20.

17th of the ſame month, to the Sheriffs of the ſeveral counties concerned, ordering them to ſeize into the King's hands the Temporalities of the Biſhoprick of Winchester. The Biſhop [2] was ordered to attend again at Weſtminſter, for a further examination on January the 20th following: but this was afterward prorogued to an uncertain day, at the King's pleaſure: nor was he ever after brought to a hearing on this occaſion.

The ſeizing of the Temporalities was no uncommon mark of the King's diſpleaſure, in caſes where a prelate had offended him, though he was not regularly convicted of any crime or miſdemeanour. Nothing more, perhaps, was meant in the preſent caſe, by the determination of the Lords of the Council. To mortify the Biſhop ſtill further, he [3] was forbidden, in the King's name, to come within twenty miles of the Court. It may be queſtioned, [4] whether the King had any knowlege of this prohibition, in which his name was made uſe of; however,

[2] See Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 132.

[3] Parker, &c. By the Duke of Lancaſter in the King's name; ſays the author of MS. Harleian, N°. 6217. Chap. 15.

[4] This doubt ſeems to be inſinuated by the Convocation in their petition in behalf of the Biſhop of Wincheſter; "Defenduz lui feuſt, come depar notre Seigneur le Roy, ſen luy diſoit,"——the whole of which ſee below, p. 123.

all

all agree that the Duke of Lancaſter was the real author of it.

The Biſhop received this prohibition about the middle of December, and upon it immediately left [5] his palace at Southwark. He [6] retired to the Monaſtery of Merton, where, for the moſt part he continued during the next month; and afterwards he paſſed ſome time in the Abby of Waverly near Farnham. I find [7] indeed that he was at Southwark again on the 4th of January, but he made no ſtay there at all. Poſſibly he might have leave to go thither, in order to make ſome neceſſary preparation for his defence at his ſecond hearing: for it was not till three or four days after this, that he received the King's letters, by which it was prorogued to a further day.

In this ſituation were the Biſhop of Wincheſter's affairs, when the Parliament was opened on the 27th of January. His great adverſary the Duke of Lancaſter had re-eſtabliſhed his power at court beyond all oppoſition, and had ſo effectually exerted it in protecting his friends and oppreſſing his enemies,

[5] Some time between the 11th and 19th of December. Regiſt. Wykeham.

[6] Regiſt. Wykeham.

[7] Ibid. part 1. fol. 80.

that the Parliament, deſirous of gaining his favour, or afraid of incurring his diſpleaſure, met in general ready to comply with him in all his meaſures, and prepared to act as he ſhould direct them. The whole proceedings therefore of this Parliament tended [8] to reverſe and diſannull all that had been done in oppoſition to the Duke and his party in the laſt. It is affirmed, [9] that the Duke of Lancaſter had procured the members of this Parliament to be elected at his pleaſure, and almoſt all thoſe, that had oppoſed him in the laſt Parliament, to be excluded: that Sir Thomas Hungerford, choſen Speaker of this Parliament, and the firſt upon record in that office, was an intimate friend of the Duke, and his Steward: that a few of Sir Peter de la Mare's friends, who, notwithſtanding the Duke of Lancaſter's influence exerted againſt them, were returned to this Parliament, uſed their utmoſt endeavours that he might be allowed to give his anſwer to the matters laid to his charge, but could not prevail: and that when one of them in particular ſtill urged this motion, he was ſilenced with threats, that it might coſt him his life, if he perſiſted in it.

The Commons [1] having granted the ſubſi-

[8] Walſingham. [9] Stow. & MS. Harleian. N°. 6217. Chap. 19.

[1] Rot. Parl. 51. Ed. 3.

dies,

dies, petitioned the King, that in conſideration of the year of his Jubilee, the Fiftieth of his reign juſt now completed, he would be graciouſly pleaſed to grant an act of general pardon to his ſubjects of all crimes committed before the beginning of the ſaid year, as he had done at the Fiftieth year of his age. To this petition the King gave his conſent. The only perſon excepted out of this general pardon was the Biſhop of Wincheſter, in the following words of the Statute: "But always it is the Kynge's "mind, that Sir [a] William Wykeham Byſhop "of Wyncheſter ſhall nothing enjoye of the "ſaid graces, graunts, and pardons, nor in no "wiſe be compriſed within the ſame [b]."

[a] A common title given formerly to Clergymen of all degrees. See Rym. Fœd. Vol. 6. p. 86. and the Dramatis Perſonæ of many of Shakeſpeare's plays. It is in the Original Record Sire Willm. de Wykeham. Rot. Parl. 51. Ed. 3. tit. 24.

[b] Statute 51. Ed. 3. intitled by miſtake in all the printed Statute Books 50 Ed. 3. As this miſtake is the principal cauſe of the great confuſion, that runs through all the accounts of this part of Wykeham's Hiſtory, it is neceſſary to clear it up beyond all doubt. The act of general pardon, granted on occaſion of Edward the 3d's Jubilee, was made in the laſt Parliament of his reign, held at Weſtminſter, Quinden. Hillarii, that is, Jan. 27th, in which Richard Prince of Wales ſat in the King's place by commiſſion, the King being ill. See Cotton's Abridg. p. 144, 146, 152. The 51ſt of Ed. 3. began Jan. 24th (Rym. Fœd. Vol. 4. p. 243.) three days before the meeting of the Parliament; which therefore is rightly intitled 51 Ed. 3. in the Parliament

The Duke of Lancaſter having procured the Biſhop of Wincheſter to be particularly excepted out of the Act of Grace, was no leſs careful to ſecure his friends, who had been condemned in the laſt Parliament, by particular acts of pardon granted to each by the King upon petitions of the Commons. The Lord Latimer's pardon he had before obtained of the King, yet thought it proper to have it renewed in this more ſolemn manner in Parliament. In the like manner Alice Perrers, Richard Lyons, and ſome others to the number of ſeven, were by the King, upon ſo many petitions of the Commons, reſtored to their former eſtates, and the

Parliament Rolls, and by all the Hiſtorians. But the 50th year of his reign was really the year which the King called his Jubilee, and the late Parliament mentioned it as ſuch. See Cotton, Abridg. p. 129. The reaſon why they did not then petition for a general pardon, was becauſe it was not agreeable to the ſeverity of their proceedings: it ſuited intirely with the deſigns of the next Parliament, who, under the influence of the Duke of Lancaſter, made it their buſineſs to reverſe all the judgements paſſed on the delinquents in the preceding Parliament. The act of general pardon itſelf mentions the 50th year of the King's reign as the occaſion of its being granted; and in the preamble it is ſaid, "Foraſmuch as this year is rightfully the year of his "Jubilee;"——which inaccuracy of expreſſion was the cauſe of the miſtake in the title. The ſame inaccuracy may be obſerved in a Record in Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 436. where the King ſpeaks of the pardon granted in an. regni 50mo, and afterwards dates

the judgements given againſt them in the laſt Parliament were reverſed, as having been obtained by falſe ſuggeſtions, and without due proceſs. While on the other hand the Biſhop of Wincheſter, without due proceſs, before he had been allowed a full hearing, or any thing, as far as appears, had been proved againſt him, was deprived of his Temporalities, and excluded from Parliament.

Though the Biſhop had received no [2] writ of ſummons to Parliament from the King, yet he was regularly [4] ſummoned to Convocation, by the Archbiſhop of Canterbury's mandate, executed by the Biſhop of London. The Clergy met in Convocation on the 3d of February. As

dates it, in præſenti noſtro Jubilæo, 15 Feb. an. reg. 51. But in another Record of the ſame date (ibid.) he ſays more accurately, that the pardon was granted "nuper dum regiminis reg. noſtri Angliæ annus *completus* eſſet 50^mus:" and the Chancellor, in his ſpeech, opening the Parliament, "ce eſt l'an. 50 de ſon "regne *accompli*, qu'eſt l'an Jubilee."——Rot. Parl. 51 Ed. 3.: and in Wykeham's pardon 1. R. 2. it is ſaid, that he was excepted out of the general pardon granted in the laſt Parliament of Edward III. This miſtake in the date of the printed Statute has miſled the Hiſtorians, who accordingly refer it to the year before: and hence it is, that they make Wykeham's troubles to have laſted two years; whereas really the whole affair was but of little more than ſeven months continuance.

[2] There is none in Regiſt. Wykeham.

[4] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3, b. fol. 3.

ſoon

ſoon [5] as the King's meſſage was delivered to the houſe, ſetting forth the neceſſity of his affairs, and deſiring a ſuitable ſubſidy, William Courtney Biſhop of London ſtood up, and made a grievous complaint of many injuries done to himſelf and the Biſhop of Wincheſter, of which he exhibited to the houſe a particular account in writing; and begged them not to conſent to any ſubſidy, till ſatisfaction ſhould be made to the parties injured. The whole houſe, in a manner, ſeconded the Biſhop of London's motion, as far as it regarded the Biſhop of Wincheſter; and [6] addreſſing themſelves to the Archbiſhop of Canterbury as their head, declared, that they looked upon the proceedings againſt the Biſhop of Wincheſter as an injury done to the whole body of the Clergy, and an infringement of the liberties of the Church; that they would in no wiſe enter upon the buſineſs propoſed to them, till all the members of the Clergy were united; that as it concerned all, it ought to be approved of all. The Archbiſhop, being of the Duke of Lancaſter's party, or afraid of offending him, would have declined meddling with their ſuit: but they perſiſted

[5] Parker, Wharton, de Epiſcopis London. p. 137.

[6] Elſyng's Method of holding Parliaments, chap. 7. Stow. MS. Harleian. N° 6217. Chap. 21.

ſo

ſo firmly in their reſolution, that he [7] was obliged to prorogue the Convocation, and wait upon the King with a repreſentation of their grievances. The King took time to conſider more particularly of their petitions; and diſmiſſed the Archbiſhop with a promiſe in general terms, that all the matters complained of ſhould be redreſſed.

Among theſe petitions of the Convocation, that which relates to the Biſhop of Wincheſter is expreſſed in the following terms [8]:

"As to what concerns the Biſhop of Win-
"cheſter; that the things underwritten, which
"are attempted againſt him, may be duly re-
"dreſſed. In the firſt place, that the Tempo-
"ralities of his Church, without ſufficient con-
"ſent and aſſent of thoſe to whom it pertain-
"eth, and whoſe aſſent is required in this be-
"half, have been taken into the hands of the
"King: and moreover, beſides that he hath
"no where to lay his head in the temporal
"manors of his Church, he hath been forbid-
"den, as by command of our Lord the King,
"ſo he was informed, to make his abode in
"ſeveral monaſteries, priories, and other places
"of his dioceſe, foundation, and patronage:

[7] Parker.

[8] Rot. Parl. 51 Ed. 3. tit. 85. and Wilkins, Concilia Mag. Brit. Vol. III. p. 104.

"by

" by which cauſes the ſaid Biſhop ſuffereth " great grievances, the juriſdiction of Holy " Church is infringed, and the execution of " his paſtoral office in divers manners interrup- " ted."

This petition is the only one to which the King, after having conſidered of them, did not vouchſafe to give any anſwer. However the [9] Convocation maintained their reſolution with ſuch ſteadineſs, that the Archbiſhop could get nothing done in the King's buſineſs, without ſending for the Biſhop of Wincheſter. He returned to Southwark on this occaſion [1], about the middle of February. He took his place in Convocation, and [2] was received by the whole aſſembly with all poſſible marks of reſpect and reverence.

The ſeſſion of Parliament ended on February the 23d, and [3] that of Convocation about a week after. The Biſhop of Wincheſter ſtill

[9] Parker, Elſyng. ibid.

[1] Between the 14th and 18th. Regiſt. Wykeham. And it appears that he was preſent at granting the ſubſidy, ibid. part 3. b. fol. 6.

[2] Parker, " He came to London with a ſmall number of " ſervaunts, who before tyme was thought to excell all other in " multitude of ſervaunts. He was joyfully receaved by hys fel- " lowe Byſhopps, & as became ſuch a perſon, greatly honored." MS. Harleian. N° 6217. Chap. 21.

[3] Wake's State of the Church, p. 304.

continued

continued [4] at Southwark, though the late remonſtrances of the Clergy ſeem to have had but little effect in bringing his affairs nearer to an accommodation with the court. The King, inſtead of reſtoring his Temporalities, ſoon [5] after made a grant of them to his Grandſon Richard, in part of payment of four thouſand marks a year, which he had ſettled on him at the time of his creating him Prince of Wales, and declaring him heir apparent of the Crown. This [6] was ſuppoſed to have been done by the Duke of Lancaſter, with a deſign to take off ſomething of the odiouſneſs of his proceedings againſt the Biſhop, and to make himſelf a little more popular in the nation, by this inſtance of good will towards the young Prince.

Some time after this an affair happened, which ſerves to diſcover to us, what were the general ſentiments of the people with regard to the Biſhop of Wincheſter and his caſe. The [7] Archbiſhop of Canterbury and the Biſhop of London,

[4] Regiſt. Wykeham.

[5] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 142. This grant is dated 15 Martii, 1376-7.

[6] Parker, Stow. MS. Harleian. N° 6217. Chap. 15.

[7] Walſingham, Stow, Fox, &c. Fox, and the reſt of the Hiſtorians who follow him, are miſtaken, in making this affair happen in February, and while the Parliament was ſitting. The Pope's

London, being commiſſioned by the Pope to proceed againſt Wickliffe, whoſe opinions began now to prevail, cited him to appear before them in the Church of St. Paul London, and to anſwer to the articles of hereſy laid to his charge. Wickliff appeared, accompanied by the Duke of Lancaſter and his friend the Lord Percy, who had undertaken his protection, chiefly in oppoſition to the Biſhops and Clergy. A prodigious concourſe of people was gathered together to hear his examination: but this was prevented by a quarrel which aroſe between the two Lords and the Biſhop of London. The Duke of Lancaſter at laſt uſing ſome threatening expreſſions to the Biſhop, the people were ſo exceedingly offended and enraged againſt him, that he found it neceſſary to make his retreat as ſoon as he could, with Lord Percy and Wickliff. Upon a ſurmiſe, that the Duke deſigned to make ſome attempt upon the liberties of the City of London, the people aſſembled together again afterward in great multitudes; they aſſaulted the Duke's palace of the Savoy,

Pope's Bulle to the Archbiſhop of Canterbury and Biſhop of London is dated the 22d of May, 1377. Wilkins's Concilia, Vol. 3. p. 116. So that it could not have happened many days before the death of Edward III.—The author of MS. Harleian. N° 6217, ſays with the reſt, that it was on the 22d of February.

they

they uſed his name with all ſorts of indignities, and hung up his arms reverſed, as a traytor's, in the principal ſtreets of the city. It was ſuppoſed, that they would have murdered the Duke, if they had met with him; and they would certainly have ſet fire to his palace, had it not been for the Biſhop of London, who came thither on purpoſe to appeaſe them. The Duke himſelf, as ſoon as the news of the riot was brought to him, as he was at dinner with a particular friend of his, a merchant in the city, immediately fled for his ſafety to the Princeſs of Wales, who was then at Kennington with her ſon Richard. The Princeſs, upon this, ſent three Gentlemen of her court to perſuade the people, in her name, to deſiſt from their violent proceedings. They returned anſwer to her, that out of the reſpect which they bore to her Highneſs, they would do whatſoever ſhe commanded; but, at the ſame time, required the meſſengers to demand of the Duke of Lancaſter, that he would ſuffer the Biſhop of Wincheſter and Sir Peter de la Mare to be brought to their anſwer, and be judged by their peers, according to the laws of England.

From this incident we may conclude, that the people looked upon the Biſhop of Wincheſter, as a perſon unjuſtly oppreſſed by the exorbitant

orbitant power of the Duke of Lancaſter[a]; not in the odious light of a wicked miniſter of ſtate, deſervedly called to account for a corrupt adminiſtration. He had been appointed one of the Council by petition of Parliament, when the Duke of Lancaſter's friends were removed, on the motion of Sir Peter de la Mare: his cauſe was united with that of Sir Peter de la Mare in the favour and attention of the people: the Duke of Lancaſter's indignation fell upon both of them at the ſame time; he continued to perſecute and oppreſs them together; and they were both at the ſame time releaſed from his oppreſſion. The cauſe of offence, therefore, was, in all probability, the ſame in both: namely, their zeal for the public good, and

[a] "Circa idem tempus Dux Lancaſtriæ perſecutus eſt gravi-"ter Epiſcopum Wyntan. dicens eum falſum fuiſſe puni ſuo "dum eſſet ejus Cancellarius, unde nimis rigoroſe immo et in-"juſtè magna ſumma pecuniæ condempnatus erat Domino Regi." Continuator Polychronici. MS. Lambeth. N° 104. "The Duke "labored againſt William Wikam byſhopp of Wynchelſter, "ſekynge a knott in a ruſhe, and taſkyng all occaſion by all "wayes and meanes he poſſibly colde to indamage hym: at "laſt amongſt other thyngs that he had objected againſt hym, "he charged hym to have bene falſſe unto the Kynge, att what "tyme he was lorde chaunceler: & althoughe the byſhopp in "declaration of hys innocencye was ready to brynge furth for "hym ſelffe both ſufficient reaſons and wytneſſes, yet notwith-"ſtandynge he cauſed him to be condemned without makynge "anſweare." MS. Harleian. N° 6217. Chap. 15.

their

their ſteady adherence to the Prince of Wales's intereſt in the parliament of 1376, in oppoſition to the Duke of Lancaſter's party and his ſuſpected deſigns. This is the only reaſonable method of accounting for the Duke's reſentment, that can be collected from the circumſtances of the whole affair. The [9] old ſtory of Wykeham's alleging, upon the confeſſion and according to the directions of Queen Philippa, that the Duke of Lancaſter was a ſuppoſititious child, and not her's and the King's ſon, which has been ſo often told to this purpoſe, is in all parts of it ſo very incredible, that it deſerves little more notice, than to obſerve only; that

[9] "Hoc anno circa idem tempus dictus Dux Lancaſtriæ contra "Epiſcopum Winton. vehementer commotus ipſum proſequi "totis viribus conabatur, eo quod, ſicut dicebatur, Domino "Regi Patri illius ſuggeſſit, quod Regina quondam uxor ipſius "dictum Ducem in utero ſuo nunquam pertavit, ſed ſuppoſuit "eum pro filio; quod ob timorem Regis celavit, ſed ante mor-"tem ſuam, ut idem Epiſcopus ut dicitur debuit aſſeruiſſe, "[leg. aſſeruiſſe dicitur, ut debuit,] ſibi fatebatur, & ei injunxit "quod [ut] hoc domino ſuo cum videret opportunum, monſtra-"ret, [mandaret] propter quod idem Dux, fingens colorem eum "proſequendi, impoſuit ſibi, quod fuit falſus patri ſuo modis "diverſis, quando ipſius extitit Cancellarius; unde erat regi in "magna ſumma pecuniæ condempnatus, pro qua condempna-"tione in manus regis omnia ejus temporalia erant capta, nec "ſibi ante mortem regis fuerant reſtituta: et licet totus Clerus "& tota Communitas preces funderent pro eiſdem, non tamen "fuerunt exauditi." J. Malveſne continuatio Chronici Ranulphi. MS. Coll. Corp. Chriſt. Cantab. ad an. 1376.

the author, whoever he was, who firſt gave out this ſtory, ſeems to have been convinced, that the Biſhop of Wincheſter, in ſome way or other, oppoſed the Duke of Lancaſter's deſigns upon the Crown; and to have furniſhed the circumſtances, either from his own invention, or from ſome idle report, which, how ridiculous ſoever, might yet poſſibly have gained ſome belief among the ignorant and credulous vulgar.

Nothing more was done in the Biſhop of Wincheſter's affair till the 18th of June fol-

The ſame ſtory is quoted in the ſame words, except the various readings above inſerted, by Wharton. Ang. Sacr. Vol. 1. p. 318. as from the Monk of Eveſham, a continuator of the Polychronicon. J. Malverne and the Monk of Eveſham are then the ſame perſon, or one of them copied the other. I think the firſt moſt probable, from Malverne's giving a long and particular account of the troubles brought upon the Abby of Eveſham by the Earl of Warwick's tenants. Fox quotes for it, Chron. Monaſterii D. Albani, or Hiſt. Monachi D. Albani, ex accommodato D. Matth. A. Ep. Cant. However, this MS. of J. Malverne is the only one among A.Bp. Parker's in Bennet Coll. Library, which contains the particulars which Fox relates as from the Chron. Albani; and the title of the MS. is in a later hand than the MS. itſelf; as I am informed by a learned friend, who favoured me with the extracts from it. Perhaps the preſent Title may have been added ſince Fox made uſe of it. As to the ſtory itſelf, it is to be obſerved, that the Duke of Lancaſter was the ſeventh child of Edward III by Queen Philippa, the fourth ſon; of whom only the ſecond ſon and the third daughter died in their infancy. This is ſufficient to deſtroy the whole foundation of

lowing

lowing, when the [1] King reſtored to him his Temporalities, in conſideration of his having undertaken, in the preſence of the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Lancaſter, and others of the Privy Council, certain burthens in relief of the King, and for the defence of his kingdom: namely, he was to fit out upon the ſea three ſhips of war, in each ſhip fifty men at arms, and fifty archers, for one quarter of a year, at ſuch wages as were uſually paid by the King, but the King was to pay the wages of the mariners: and in caſe ſuch voyage ſhould not take place, he was to pay to the King the ſum to

this ſtory: for, can we ſuppoſe, that in theſe circumſtances, the King could be very deſirous of another ſon, or the Queen under any temptation to impoſe one upon him? Fox and others after him, without any warrant from their author, have related it as an invention and a mere ſlander of Wykeham. Taking it in this light, can we poſſibly ſuppoſe, that Wykeham, though he were wicked enough, yet could be ſo weak, as in ſo delicate a buſineſs, and to his extreme hazard, to invent and utter ſo incredible and ſo abſurd a ſtory? But, that no ſuch ſtory was, at that time, uttered or invented, is ſtill further probable, from the Duke of Lancaſter's ſilence with regard to it: when he made his complaint in Parliament of the reports, that had been ſpread concerning him, imputing to him treaſonable deſigns, he ſaid not a word relating to any ſuch report as this, though more manifeſtly injurious to him, and more highly provoking, and as much of national concern as the others. —— The ſame ſtory is told in MS. Harleian. N° 6217, Chap. 15.

[1] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 148, 149, 168. and MS. Rym. R. 2. Vol. 1. N° 22.

which the wages of the ſaid three hundred men by reaſonable computation ſhould amount. His ſponſors for the due performance of theſe articles, were Edmund de Mortimer Earl of March, Richard Earl of Arundell, and Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, then preſent in council. Theſe were three of the moſt conſiderable Lords in the kingdom; and it is highly probable, that it was by their powerful interceſſion, that the Biſhop obtained the reſtitution of his Temporalities. It has been ſaid, that he procured this grant, by purchaſing Alice Perrers's good offices with the King in his favour, by a large ſum of money in hand, and larger promiſes of future ſervices; and that ſhe gained this point for him, very much againſt the inclinations of her friend the Duke of Lancaſter. [a] This has been advanced without any other foundation of proof, or colour of probability, than the ſuppoſed influence of this Lady with the King, by ſome late writers, at a time when, as it could not poſſibly be verified, ſo neither could it eaſily be confuted.

On the 21ſt of June, 1377, died Edward III. And thus the Biſhop of Wincheſter had the

[a] MS. Harleian. No. 6217, Chap. 28, contains the very ſame account. Of the age of this author, and conſequently of the credit due to him with regard to ſuch a piece of ſecret hiſtory, I cannot pretend to give any poſitive judgement.

ſatiſ-

ſatisfaction of being, in ſome meaſure, reſtored to the favour of this excellent prince, his great patron and benefactor, a few days before his death: if he may be ſuppoſed ever to have forfeited it; which he certainly did not, till the King himſelf had, in a manner, loſt his own liberty.

Upon the acceſſion of Richard II. to the Throne, all difficulties with regard to the Biſhop of Wincheſter's affairs ceaſed immediately; which gives us a further preſumption, that Alice Perrers had no hand in removing them; for her power was now at an end. He was [3] ſummoned to attend at the King's Coronation, by the King's writ, dated June the 26th; and accordingly aſſiſted [4] at that ceremony, on the 15th of July. His pardon [5] paſſed the Privy Seal on the 31ſt of the ſame month, as ſoon as a thing of this nature, at ſuch a time, could well be diſpatched. It is conceived in the fulleſt and moſt extenſive terms poſſible, as [6] Lord Coke has particularly obſerved. It re-

[3] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 4. fol. 15.

[4] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 157.

[5] Ibid. p. 163, &c.

[6] "The moſt large and beneficial pardons by Letters Patents, "which we have read and do remember, were that to William "Wickham Biſhop of Wincheſter (for good men will never refuſe "God and the King's pardon, becauſe every man doth often

cites, in the firſt place, the firſt ſeven articles of accuſation, which we have already given; and then ſets forth, that the King, reflecting upon the great damages and hardſhips that the Biſhop of Wincheſter hath ſuſtained, on occaſion of the ſaid impeachment; and revolving in his mind the many acceptable, uſeful, and laudable ſervices, which the ſaid Biſhop, with great labour and expence, hath long performed for his Grandfather, the many high offices which he hath held under his Grandfather and Father, and the ſpecial affection and ſincere love which his Father, while he lived, always bore towards the ſaid Biſhop; out of his ſpecial favour, and with his certain knowlege, and alſo by advice and conſent of his Uncle the Duke of Lancaſter and the Prelates and Lords of his Council, remits and pardons all the aforeſaid articles, and all other crimes and offences whatſoever in the ampleſt terms, and in the fulleſt manner, the exception of the ſaid Biſhop in the Act of Grace paſſed in the laſt Parliament of the late King, and all other ſtatutes to the contrary, notwithſtanding: concluding with a clauſe to this effect; "Willing "that all men ſhould know, that, although we

"offend both of them) and that other to Thomas Woolſey Car-"dinal; which are learnedly and largely penned." 3 Inſtit. chap. 105.

"have

"have granted to the Biſhop of Wincheſter "the ſaid pardons and graces; nevertheleſs we "do not think the ſaid Biſhop to be in anywiſe "chargeable, in the ſight of God, with any of "the matters thus by us pardoned, remitted, "or releaſed unto him; but do hold him to be, "as to all and every of them, wholly innocent "and guiltleſs."

By an inſtrument[7] under the Privy Seal, likewiſe of the ſame date, which firſt recites the eighth article of accuſation, as expreſſed above, in conſequence of which his Temporalities were ſeiſed, the King grants him a full remiſſion of all the burthens beforementioned, which were impoſed on him upon the reſtitution of his Temporalities; pardons and releaſes him from all matters contained in the ſaid article; and graciouſly remits and grants unto him all ſuch profits aud revenues of the ſaid Temporalities, as were due to himſelf, then Prince of Wales, and not paid at the time of the reſtitution. However, the loſs ſuſtained by the Biſhop, in this affair, is[8] ſaid, in the whole to have amounted to 10000 marks.

[7] Rym. Fœd. ibid. p. 168.
[8] MS. Coll. Wint.

THE LIFE OF WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM.

SECTION V.

Civil affairs during the former Part of the Reign of Richard the Second.

WYKEHAM, as we have ſeen, even in the reign of Edward the Third, firmly eſtabliſhed in the eſteem and affection of the King, and ſupported by the favour of the people, yet could not ſecure himſelf againſt the malice of his enemies, or, more properly, againſt the reſentment of one great man, whom, in defence of a moſt juſt and honourable cauſe, and from a principle of gratitude and loyalty, he had dared to oppoſe. One in his high ſtation, and who had long borne ſo diſtinguiſhed a part

a part in public affairs, muſt have found it a much more difficult taſk to act with honour and dignity, and to carry himſelf ſteadily and ſafely, through the unhappy reign of Richard the Second. The former part of which was ſubject to all the inconveniencies of a minority; unſettled meaſures, divided counſels, ill management in the revenues, continual loſſes abroad, and dangerous ſeditions at home: and what was of greater conſequence than all, ſuch a neglect of the King's education, (for he ſeems to have been not at all deficient in his natural endowments,) that when he was of age the ſtate of affairs became in his hands much worſe than before. The latter part was ſpent in a hazardous contention between two violent parties: the King, encouraged by his favourites and flatterers, avowing his endeavours to eſtabliſh himſelf in an unlimited power; and his oppoſers openly [1] threatening him with the example of his great grandfather Edward the Second. The event was fatal, firſt to the King's miniſters, afterward to the chiefs of the popular party, and laſtly to the King himſelf: and the conſequence was a moſt bloody civil war, that in the next age, for many years, continued to lay waſte the nation, and almoſt ut-

[1] Rot. Parl. 21. R. 2. tit. 47.

terly

terly extirpated the Royal Family. Wykeham conducted himſelf through theſe dangerous times, with that wiſdom and caution which might be expected from one of his great experience; ſo as to maintain himſelf always in credit, and in a due degree of favour with the King, at the ſame time that he ſtood high in the eſteem and confidence of the people.

The Duke of Lancaſter was ſenſible, that his late violent proceedings and imperious behaviour had rendered him extremely odious to the whole nation. His deſigns upon the Crown, if he ever really entertained them, he muſt have relinquiſhed ſome time ago; but ſtill he had very fair pretenſions to the Protectorſhip during the minority of the King. In the beginning of the new reign therefore he uſed his utmoſt endeavours to recover, if poſſible, the credit he had loſt, and to ſhew himſelf in a more popular light. [a] A few days before, he had offended the city of London more than ever, by turning out the Mayor and Aldermen, and appointing others in their places, on occaſion of the late riot. He now, by the young King's mediation, and with the beſt grace he could, immediately reconciled himſelf to the City: and in the ca-

[a] Walſingham, Stow.

valcade

valcade of the King and his Court through London the ſame day, the Duke and his friend the Lord Percy, who had engaged with him in the ſame quarrel, being at the head of the guards, the firſt as high Steward, the latter as Marſhal of England, to make way for the King; they both of them ſtudied to behave themſelves towards the citizens of all ranks, in the moſt obliging and courteous manner, addreſſing them with the utmoſt condeſcenſion and familiarity, and giving them all poſſible demonſtrations of the ſincereſt regard and friendſhip. Sir Peter de la Mare [3] was immediately releaſed from his impriſonment in Nottingham Caſtle, with great marks of honour; the Biſhop of Wincheſter's pardon was ordered to be expedited with all diſpatch; both probably at the Duke of Lancaſter's motion, at leaſt not without his concurrence. Yet all this affectation of popularity had very little effect in removing the impreſſions, which his former behaviour had left upon the minds of all orders of men. And when, immediately after the Coronation, the adminiſtration of affairs during the minority came to be ſettled in a great council of the Lords and Prelates, inſtead of naming the Duke

[3] Walſingham, Hyp. Neuſt.

of

of Lancaſter ſole Protector, they [4] conſtituted a Council or Regency, conſiſting of twelve perſons of different eſtates, without ſo much as admitting him into the number.

The Duke of Lancaſter could not diſſemble his diſguſt upon this occaſion: he deſired [5] the King's leave to retire from Court, and went to his Caſtle of Kenilworth; profeſſing however, before he went, that, in caſe his aſſiſtance ſhould be wanted, he would attend his Majeſty with a larger train than any Nobleman in the kingdom, and ſhould be always ready to promote his honour and ſervice. His friend the Lord Percy, now Earl of Northumberland, expreſſed likewiſe his reſentment upon this occaſion, and reſigned his ſtaff of Marſhal, which he had obtained by the Duke's favour.

Soon afterward [6] the Parliament met, not at all more favourably diſpoſed towards the Duke of Lancaſter; and he was not now in ſuch power, as to awe them into a compliance with his will. The [7] firſt ſtep the Commons took, was to chooſe for their Speaker Sir Peter de la

[4] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 161. Confirmed by Letters Patent, July 20, 1377. Ibid.
[5] Walſingham.
[6] October 13, 1377.
[7] Rot. Parl. 1. R. 2.

Mare,

Mare, the great Patriot of the Good Parliament; who, on that account, had been thrown into prison, and, contrary to all law, confined there a whole year, by the oppressive power of the Duke of Lancaster. And [8] agreeably to this beginning, they proceeded to give ample testimony of their approbation of what was done in that Parliament, the business of which they in a manner resumed; and of their dislike of the contrary measures of the last Parliament, which they in several instances reversed. They petitioned [9], that the King and Lords would name, in Parliament, certain Persons of divers estates, such as were best able, and would be most diligent and careful, to promote the public good, to be of the King's continual Council, and to act jointly with the great Officers of State. This petition was granted, and nine persons, chosen by the advice of the Lords, were appointed. This Council must necessarily have superseded the Regency before established, their powers being wholly inconsistent. And thus, not only the Duke of Lancaster himself, but one or two of his chief friends likewise who were of that Regency, in particular the Lord Latimer, were now entirely set aside.

[8] Walsingham, Stow.

[9] Rot. Parl. 1. R. 2. tit. 18, 42, 43, 49.

The

The Commons further demanded, that judgement might be executed upon Alice Perrers, according to her deſerts, and without favour or affection; and that, conſidering the great damage ſhe had done to the kingdom, her forfeited eſtates might be applied to the relief of the people, whom ſhe had in many ways injured. This petition was in conſequence of her impeachment before the Lords, upon the the Statute of maintenance, made expreſsly on her account in the Parliament of 1376; on which ſhe received ſentence of baniſhment, and forfeiture of all goods and eſtates, both in demeſne and in reverſion. They petitioned alſo, that a declaration might be made, as to the monies and ſubſidies, miſapplied and unwarrantably expended by improper and unprofitable miniſters; and that the ſaid miniſters might be puniſhed for the relief of the people. They further repreſent, that the late King was guided by evil Counſellors; and pray that all ſuch Counſellors as have been before convicted upon full evidence, and attainted, may be removed from the King's Counſels, and that neither they, nor others like them, be ever admitted near the King's perſon, nor bear office under him: and that all grants [1] made by the

[1] This Petition of the Commons was probably occaſioned by the conviction of Alice Perrers in the Houſe of Lords; one late

late King may be examined, and if found to have been unworthily beſtowed, may be revoked: with all which requeſts the King complied. In all this the Commons ſeem to have proceeded in a temperate and diſpaſſionate manner; and to have conſidered very rightly, that extreme rigour would have been unadviſeable in the beginning of a new reign. In their pe-

article which was proved againſt her was, that ſhe had obtained of the late King, with the aſſent of the Council, for Richard Lyons, a remiſſion of 3001. which he owed to the Exchequer, reſtoration of lands and goods forfeited, and moreover a grant to him of 1000 marks. It might alſo have reſpect to the many grants, which ſhe had obtained of the King for herſelf; as may be ſeen in MS. Rymer, Vol. 1. Miſcellan. Ed. 3. N° 60, 64, 66, 70. and Index Rot. Pat. Biblioth. Cotton. Titus, C. 2, and 3. Beſide the grant of the late queen Philippa's jewels, 47 Ed. 3. Rymer Fœd. Vol. 7th, p. 28. Theſe grants bear date from the 41ſt of Ed. 3. to the end of his reign. Her eſtates were very conſiderable: beſide a great many lands, tenements, advowſons, &c. ſhe had in different counties twenty two manors, for the moſt part in poſſeſſion, ſome few of them in reverſion. Though the King granted the petition of the Commons, that her forfeited eſtates might be applied to the relief of the people, yet about two years afterward he made a grant of them all to her husband Sir William de Wyndeſore. William of Wykeham purchaſed of Sir William de Wyndeſore the manor of Meoneſtoke, in the county of Southampton, and ſettled it on his College of Wincheſter: this manor was part of the forfeited eſtate of Alice, granted to her husband; on which account the King's writ, containing the whole grant above mentioned, is preſerved in the Archives of Wincheſter College, among the title-deeds of that manor. Lib. H. Coll. Wint. fol. 256.

tition

tition for the appointing of a ſtanding Council, after complaining of thoſe about the late King, they add; [a] "But nevertheleſs the ſaid Com-"mons do not at all deſire now to take venge-"ance of any, that hath done amiſs in time "paſt; but that in time to come ſuch evil-doers "may be duly puniſhed."

After theſe ſeveral petitions, manifeſtly tending to fix all the blame of the maladminiſtration in the latter part of Edward the Third's reign upon the ſame ſet of men, who had been called to account for it, and puniſhed in the Parliament of 1376, and who had gotten themſelves exculpated in the ſucceeding Parliament; the Commons proceeded to addreſs the King in behalf of the Biſhop of Wincheſter in particular; who, by favouring that inquiry, and the proceedings againſt them, had incurred the reſentment of the whole party, and had ſuffered ſo much from their malice when they had recovered their power.

The petition of the Commons, upon this occaſion, with the King's anſwer to it, is expreſſed in the following manner.

"[b] The Commons, in this preſent Parlia-"ment aſſembled, pray, That, whereas in the

[a] Rot. Parl. 1. R. 2. tit. 20.
[b] Rot. Parl. 1. R. 2. tit. 99.

"Parlia-

" Parliament holden at Weſtminſter, on the " Quindene of St. Hilary laſt paſt, a general " grace, pardon, and remiſſion was granted by " your Grandfather to all his ſubjects and lieges " of his kingdom of England of every manner, " degree, eſtate, and condition, as it appeareth " in the rolls of the ſaid Parliament, in the " which general grace, pardon, and remiſſion, " * the Biſhop of Wincheſter was excepted and " forepriſed; and afterwards your Royal Ma- " jeſty did grant unto the ſaid Biſhop, that he " ſhould have and enjoy, fully and entirely, in " all points the ſame graces, pardons, and re- " miſſions made unto others his lieges in the " ſaid Parliament by your ſaid Grandfather, " notwithſtanding the exception and forepriſion " aforeſaid; and furthermore did pardon unto " him many different articles and impeach- " ments, impoſed upon him in the time of " your ſaid Grandfather; and divers other " graces, pardons, and remiſſions did make " unto him; and of all the articles, impeach- " ments, and matters aforeſaid, did grant unto " him, and cauſe to be made, your gracious " Charters in full, as in them more fully ap- " peareth: may it pleaſe your noble Highneſs,

* In the Record it is only, le dit Eveſque, by miſtake, there being no mention of him before.

" by the advice and common aſſent of the Pre-
" lates, the Duke, the Earls, Barons, and other
" Lords, and the Commons, to affirm, ap-
" prove, ratify, and confirm in this preſent
" Parliament your ſaid Charters, with all the
" articles, pardons, graces, remiſſions, and cir-
" cumſtances whatſoever in them contained, to
" the honour of God, and for the ſafety and
" ſurety of the eſtate of the ſaid Biſhop, and of
" his Church of Wincheſter."

" The Anſwer."

" The King in his own perſon, and by his
" own mouth, as alſo by common aſſent and
" advice of the Prelates, the Duke, the Earls,
" Barons, and other Lords, in full Parliament
" aſſembled, hath granted this petition fully,
" and in all points, and whatever is contained
" therein; and willeth and granteth, by the
" common aſſent and advice aforeſaid, that the
" Charters or Letters, whereof this petition
" maketh mention, and which were with good
" deliberation ſeen, read, and fully heard in
" the ſaid Parliament, be now affirmed, ap-
" proved, ratified, and confirmed, under the
" Great Seal, according to the purport of the
" ſaid petition, and the effect, tenor, and form
" of the Charters and Letters aforeſaid."

Theſe

Theſe declarations of Parliament, ſo directly tending to fix the blame of miſmanagement in the latter part of Edward the Third's reign upon the Duke of Lancaſter and his faction, and ſo expreſsly clearing the Biſhop of Wincheſter from all imputation of that nature, were not the effect of any ſecret intrigue, any undue influence, a peculiar humour, or a ſpirit of party prevailing in the preſent Parliament, and therefore liable to be contradicted and reverſed in the next perhaps that ſhould meet; of which, both with reſpect to the cauſe and the event, the proceedings of the laſt Parliament of the late King afford us a remarkable example. On the contrary, they were, in ſome meaſure, confirmed by moſt of the ſucceeding Parliaments; hardly any of which paſſed without giving the Biſhop of Wincheſter ſome mark of their confidence, and ſome teſtimony of their opinion of his integrity.

The management of affairs ſucceeded very ill in the hands of thoſe, to whom the adminiſtration was committed by Parliament. The people found no eaſe in their taxes, nor any retrenchment of expences in the ſtate: the demands for the public ſervices increaſed, the treaſury was exhauſted, and the King in debt.

The Commons therefore, in the Parliament that met in the beginning of the year 1380, petitioned, That the King's ſtanding Council might be diſcharged, and that he would appoint in their ſtead, only five Counſellors, being his great officers of ſtate; namely, the Chancellor, Treaſurer, Privy-Seal, Chamberlain, and Steward of the houſhold: and that theſe officers might not be removed before the next Parliament. They further repreſent to the King, that his ſubjects are ſo impoveriſhed by the many ſubſidies granted to the late King and himſelf for the defence of the kingdom, that they cannot any longer ſupport theſe burthens, unleſs an end be put to the wars, or ſome other remedy be found: they petition him therefore, that, for his own honour, and the relief of his ſubjects, he would be pleaſed to have his own ſtate put under ſuch proper direction, and the behaviour of his officers and miniſters, by whoſe negligence he and his kingdom have greatly ſuffered, and alſo his revenues, ſo inſpected and examined, that he

[a] Rot. Parl. 3. R. 2.

[b] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7th p. 250. The Commiſſion is there given at large, and is dated May 2, 1380. Per ipſum Regem et Concilium. In pleno Parliamento. Though the Parliament had finiſhed their ſeſſion the beginning of March preceding. Wake's State of the Church, p. 312.

may

may be able to live in a manner ſuitable to his Majeſty, and bear his ſhare in the ſaid burthens, to the eaſe of his ſubjects. The King and Council, therefore, in full Parliament, appoint, at their requeſt, ſixteen Commiſſioners; four Biſhops, three Earls, three Bannerets, three Knights, two Citizens of London, and one of York; all or any five of whom, provided there be one at leaſt of each ſtate and degree, have power to go into any of his courts or offices, to examine the officers and their accounts; to ſurvey and inſpect the revenues of the King and kingdom of all ſorts; to examine into the fees of officers under the late King, annuities granted by him, and the like; the ſtate of the late King's houſhold, and his own, with many particulars of the ſame kind more fully ſpecified: and of the reſult of their inquiries they are to certify the King and Council. They have power to examine all perſons upon oath, except the great Officers of the Kingdom; and all officers, of the late King, and his own, are ordered to attend and aſſiſt them, and to produce whatever papers or records are required by them. The Biſhop of Wincheſter was one of theſe Commiſſioners. The Parliament could not have given a clearer demonſtration of their

* Only three Biſhops are mentioned in Rot. Parl.

confidence in him, nor a fuller acknowlegement of the uprightneſs of his adminiſtration under Edward the Third, than by appointing him one of the examiners into the abuſes of that reign, as well as the preſent. And this, together with what has been obſerved before on this ſubject, gives us as full proof as the nature of the caſe will admit, that the nation in general wholly imputed the maladminiſtration in the latter part of Edward the Third's time, ſo much complained of, to the Duke of Lancaſter and his party, and not to the Biſhop of Wincheſter.

This Commiſſion, though in all reſpects fully ſettled in Parliament, was not iſſued in form to the ſeveral perſons appointed to that ſervice, till the beginning of May following; ſo that probably no great matter was done in the buſineſs of it, when the Parliament met again towards the end of the ſame year. The Commons then petitioned the King, that the Commiſſion appointed in the laſt Parliament might be carried into execution without delay, and that the Lords and others, named in the ſaid Commiſſion, now preſent in Parliament, be charged to begin their Inquiry on the 20th of January following.

[7] Rot. Parl. 4. R. 2. tit. 28.

The

The Commiſſioners could not have made any great progreſs in this Inquiry, before their proceedings were interrupted by thoſe terrible [s] inſurrections, which were begun in the Counties of Kent and Eſſex by the loweſt of the People, conducted by leaders the vileſt and baſeſt even of their own number. Theſe tumults were at their highth about the middle of the next June: the infection of popular madneſs began to ſpread widely; the whole nation was thrown into the greateſt confuſion, and the King and kingdom brought into the moſt imminent danger. But this dreadful rebellion was ſoon happily quelled in effect by one bold and ſucceſsful effort of the young King himſelf, who in the utmoſt extremity acted with all the preſence of mind, the reſolution and ſpirit, of his great Father and Grandfather; and ſhewed what might have been expected from him, if he had not unfortunately been thrown into the hands of thoſe, who, to eſtabliſh the more eaſily their own power and intereſt, ſtudied to corrupt his tender mind, and to depreſs thoſe excellent talents with which nature had endowed him.

To ſettle the ſtate of the nation, and to quiet

[s] Walſingham, &c.

the minds of the people, after ſo great a commotion, a Parliament was ſummoned to meet in the beginning of November. The Commons petition, that certain Prelates and Lords may be appointed to confer with them on affairs greatly concerning the ſtate of the kingdom: they are ordered to give in the names of ſuch as they would chooſe for this purpoſe in writing; they name ſeventeen; among them the Biſhop of Wincheſter. After diligent conference with theſe Lords, they make a grievous complaint of the ill ſtate of the nation, repreſenting, that, unleſs the adminiſtration of government be ſoon amended, the Kingdom will be utterly ruined. They proceed to enumerate particularly the defaults of government: firſt, about the King's perſon, and in his houſhold, through the unreaſonable number of ſervants and attendants maintained therein; as alſo in his Courts, the Chancery, King's Bench, Common Bench, and Exchequer, by grievous oppreſſions: and in the Country, by the great multitude of maintainers of quarrels, who carry themſelves there like kings; that they are ſtripped and ruined by the oppreſſions of the Purveyors of the King's houſhold; as alſo by taxes and ſubſidies, which are levied with great diſtreſſes, and oppreſſions of the people, by the

[9] Rot. Parl. 5. R. 2. tit. 17, 18, &c.

King's

King's Ministers; and though great sums of money are granted and levied, so that they never were so poor before, yet they are not defended from the enemy, but are plundered by land and sea: which mischiefs the poor Commons, who used to live in honour and prosperity, can no longer endure; and these have given occasion to the late insurrections, and unless remedied, will be the cause of greater misfortunes. They therefore beg redress of these grievances, for the safety of the King and kingdom; that evil Officers and Counsellors may be removed; and above all, that the most able and discreet Lords and others of the kingdom may be placed about the person of the King, and in his Council.

The King advises with the Lords of the realm and those of his Council on this petition, which appeared to him to be for the good of himself and his kingdom; and grants that certain Prelates, Lords, and others, may be appointed to examine into the state and government of the King's person and household, and provide remedies to the abuses complained of. Nineteen are nominated for this service; the Duke of Lancaster is the first, and the Bishop of Winchester one of that number. They are ordered to sit in Privy Council many days, without

without doing any thing elſe in Parliament while this buſineſs is depending.

The Commons then addreſs their petitions, relating to the abuſes abovementioned, and the ſtate of the nation in general, to theſe Commiſſioners; who ſeem to have entered effectually upon their Inquiry, and to have made a conſiderable progreſs in it. For in the ſecond meeting of this Parliament, at the end of the February following, after an adjournment, the Commons petition, [1] that the Officers of the King's houſhold may be ſworn before the Lords in Parliament, to obſerve the ordinance and government of the King's houſhold, as appointed by the Commiſſioners: which petition is granted.

But, notwithſtanding all the diligence of the Commiſſioners in regulating theſe affairs, and the precaution taken by the Commons to ſecure the obſervance of their regulations, we do not find that complaints of the ſame abuſes ceaſed at all for the future. Walſingham, having mentioned ſeveral of the acts paſſed in this Parliament, and that many other things were at the ſame time ordained, adds, "But to what "purpoſe ſerve acts of Parliament, when after-

[1] Rot. Parl. 5. R. 2. tit. 75.

"wards

"wards they take no effect at all? the King, "by the advice of thoſe about him, uſed to "alter or ſet aſide every thing, that the whole "commonalty of the kingdom, and even the "nobility itſelf, had enacted in the preceding "Parliaments." Of this he gives us afterwards a remarkable example. Sir Richard Le Scrope had, in this Parliament, been appointed Chancellor by the Commiſſioners, upon the petition of the Commons addreſſed to them. Not long after, on his refuſing to ſet the ſeal to ſome extravagant grants of the King to certain of his favourite courtiers, the King by their perſuaſion was induced to take away the Seal from the uncomplying Chancellor. Walſingham adds, that he executed theſe grants with his own hands; in this particular he is miſtaken: however, he placed the Seal by [2] commiſſion in the hands of ſome others of his courtiers, who probably were not ſo ſcrupulous in obeying his commands; and afterwards delivered it to the Biſhop of London.

In the Parliament which met October the 6th, 1382, the [3] Commons name the Biſhop of Wincheſter among the Lords, whom they

[2] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 632.
[3] Rot. Parl. 6. R. 2. tit. 14.

petition

petition to have appointed to confer with them on the matters propoſed to their conſideration: namely, whether it were more adviſeable to agree to the Duke of Lancaſter's propoſal, for an attempt upon the kingdom of Caſtile, to which he had pretenſions; or that of the Biſhop of Norwich, for an expedition againſt the French and Flemings. Both the Duke and the Biſhop were armed by Pope Urban the VIth with powers for publiſhing a cruſade againſt thoſe adherents to his rival, the Antipope Clement the VIIth. The Commons gave their advice for the latter; which accordingly took place, and * failed of ſucceſs by the ſecret endeavours of the Duke of Lancaſter to obſtruct the Biſhop's deſigns, and his affected delay in ſending him ſuccours.

The chief occaſion of the meeting of the Parliament at the latter end of the year 1383, was to provide for a war with Scotland, which was apprehended to be unavoidable; the truce being now near expiring, and the Antipope Clement having, by way of repriſals, publiſhed a cruſade againſt the Engliſh, and commiſſioned the King of Scotland to execute it. Upon this, as it was uſual in the like caſes, the

* Froiſſart, Walſingham, Holliſhed.

Lords

Lords Marchers of the North were ordered by Parliament to their reſpective countries, to fortify their caſtles, and to be in readineſs to defend the borders againſt the irruption of the Scots. Theſe Lords therefore petitioned, that part of the ſupplies, raiſed for the defence of the nation againſt Scotland, might be allowed them in conſideration of this ſervice. The matter was debated in the Houſe of Lords; and the authority of the Biſhop of Wincheſter, [6] who was the principal perſon that oppoſed their petition, carried the queſtion againſt them, notwithſtanding [7] their great power and influence. He alleged, that the lands and honours, which they now poſſeſſed, had been given to them for this very purpoſe, that they might be enabled to defend the borders, and repel the Scots; and to ſave the kingdom the perpetual trouble and expence of ſending forces to thoſe diſtant parts: that they were in a condition to

[6] Rot. Parl. 7. R. 2.

[6] Walſingham.

[7] The principal of them was Henry Percy Earl of Northumberland. See Cotton, Abridg. p. 283. The ſame who had been made Marſhal of England by the Duke of Lancaſter's means at the end of Edward III's reign, and Earl of Northumberland at the coronation of Richard II. The Caſtle of Warkworth in Northumberland, and the manor of Rothbury, had been granted to his grandfather for this very ſervice, in the beginning of Ed. III's time. Cotton, Abridg. p. 11. Probably therefore what the Biſhop ſaid upon this occaſion related chiefly to him.

perform

perform this ſervice with eaſe; whereas their anceſtors, without their power or riches, and ſupported only by their own courage and bravery, had gained many victories over thoſe enemies of their country. The Parliament, therefore, only granted to theſe Lords Commiſſioners to raiſe forces, and to make reprisals upon the Scots. We find, however, that a few years after this [a] they gained this very point, by petition of the Commons; but with declaration, that it was on account of the ſudden breaking out of the war, and for that time only; and with proteſtation, that it ſhould not be made a precedent.

In the Parliament [b] held at Saliſbury in the beginning of the next year, the Biſhop of Winchester was likewiſe one of the Lords, whom the Commons choſe to have aſſigned as a committee, to confer with them upon the propoſal of a treaty of peace with France.

The King and Council, as well as the Commons, had recourſe to the Biſhop of Winchester's wiſdom and experience in affairs of difficulty. Many branches of the revenues of the

[a] Rot. Parl. 11. R. 2. tit. 45.
[b] Rot. Parl. 7. R. 2. part 2.

crown

crown were greatly in arrear: this matter required a particular inſpection, and an extraordinary power to clear it up and ſettle it perfectly. Towards the end of the year 1385 [1], the Biſhops of Wincheſter and Exeter, and two Bannerets, were for this purpoſe joined with the Privy Council, and commiſſioned with full powers to ſearch and give orders, in the Exchequer and elſewhere, as it ſhould ſeem beſt to them, concerning all manner of debts due to the King.

In the mean time, the King's extravagance, and his immoderate indulgence to his favourites, continued to give general diſcontent. Courtney [2], Archbiſhop of Canterbury, encouraged by ſome of the nobility, and principally, as it ſhould ſeem, by the Duke of Glocester, ventured to remonſtrate to the King upon this head; and to tell him plainly, that, unleſs he would ſuffer himſelf to be better adviſed and directed, his proceedings muſt ſoon end in the utter ruin of himſelf and his kingdom. The King received this reproof with great indignation: he loaded the Archbiſhop with opprobrious language, and the vehemence of his

[1] Rot. Parl. 9. R. 2. tit. 43.

[2] Monachus Eveſham. in Vita Richardi adi, ab Hearnio editus.

paſſion

paſſion had carried him ſtill further, had not the Duke of Gloceſter interpoſed. Upon this the Archbiſhop, to expreſs his reſentment, retired from court: but ſoon met with new cauſe of diſguſt. The [3] Convocation had granted the King a ſubſidy in December, 1384. But the King's neceſſities were not ſatisfied: and therefore, about the middle of January, writs were iſſued for calling another Convocation in Lent, for further ſupplies. The Archbiſhop uſed his utmoſt endeavours to divert the King from this reſolution of ſummoning a Convocation again ſo ſoon: he wrote to him, deſiring him, with great earneſtneſs, to recall his writ. He wrote likewiſe to the Biſhop of Wincheſter, who was then at court, as well as to ſome others of his brethren, exhorting them to do what they could, to perſuade the King to relinquiſh his deſign: but the King perſiſted in it. The Archbiſhop obeyed, and ſummoned the Convocation: but, to ſhew his diſſatisfaction, he would not aſſiſt at it in perſon, but commiſſioned the Biſhops of London and Wincheſter to preſide in it in his ſtead.

Theſe ſcattered memorials of the Biſhop of Wincheſter's weight and authority, in the management of the moſt important concerns of

[3] Wake's State of the Church, p. 317.

the

the public, I have laid together, as they occurred, in the order of time; which leads us now to the extraordinary Commiſſion of the tenth year of Richard II. in which he was perſonally concerned, and upon which the remaining part of the affairs of this reign principally turn. This will require a more full and connected relation: and that it may not be interrupted and confounded with matters of a different nature, it will be proper, firſt, to conſider him again in his more private capacity, by returning to his Epiſcopal acts, and the execution of his charitable deſigns.

M THE

THE LIFE OF WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM.

SECTION VI.

Eccleſiaſtical affairs during the reign of Richard the Second.

UPON the acceſſion of Richard the Second to the throne, Wykeham, now delivered from the perſecution of the Duke of Lancaſter, and diſengaged, as far as his high ſtation and great authority would permit, from his former conſtant attendance on public affairs, was reſolved to make uſe of the opportunity and leiſure which theſe circumſtances afforded him; and applied himſelf to the great work of executing his deſign for his two Colleges, upon which

which he had long before been determined, and for which he had many years been making preparations. His whole plan, as I have already obſerved, was formed at once; and the deſign was noble, uniform, and complete. It was no leſs than to provide for the perpetual maintenance and inſtruction of two hundred ſcholars, to afford them a liberal ſupport, and to lead them through a perfect courſe of education; from the firſt elements of letters, through the whole circle of the Sciences; from the loweſt claſs of grammatical learning to the higheſt degrees in the ſeveral faculties. It properly and naturally conſiſted of two parts, rightly forming two eſtabliſhments, the one ſubordinate to the other. The deſign of the one was to lay the foundations of Science, that of the other, to raiſe and complete the ſuperſtructure; the former was to ſupply the latter with proper ſubjects, and the latter was to improve the advantages received in the former. The plan was truly great, and an original in its kind: as Wykeham had no example to follow in it, ſo no perſon has yet been found, who has had the ability, or the generoſity, to follow his example; except one, and that a King of England, who has done him the honour to adopt and to copy his whole deſign.

hall: the expence of their lodging amounted to 10l. 13s. 4d. a year. They were allowed each of them 1s. 6d. a week for their commons: and they had proper ſervants to attend them, who had ſuitable ſtipends.

In the [4] year 1379, the Biſhop completed his ſeveral purchaſes of lands for the ſite of his College, and immediately took his meaſures for erecting his building. In the firſt place, he obtained the [5] King's Patent, granting him licence to found his College: it is dated June 30th, 1379. He procured likewiſe [6] the Pope's Bulle to the ſame effect. He publiſhed his [7] Charter of Foundation November 26th following; by which he entitled his College, Seinte Marie College of Wynchestre in Oxenford. It was then vulgarly called the New College; which became in time a ſort of proper name for it, and in common uſe continues to be ſo to this day. At the ſame time, upon the reſignation of Toneworth, he conſtituted his kinſman Nicholas Wykeham Warden, with

[4] Ant Wood. Hiſt. Univ. Oxon. lib. 2. p. 129.

[5] A. Wood. ibid. ex. Pat. 3. R. 2. p. 1. m. 32. & Index Rot. Pat. 3. R. 2. Bibliothec. Cotton. Titus, c. 3.

[6] Procem. Statut. Coll. Oxon.

[7] Regiſt. 2. Coll. Nov. fol. 138.

a ſalary

a ſalary of 40 l. a year. On [8] the 5th of March following, at eight o'clock in the morning, the foundation-ſtone was laid: the building was finiſhed in ſix years; and the Society made their public entrance into it with much ſolemnity and devotion, ſinging Litanies, and marching in proceſſion, with the Croſs borne before them, at nine o'clock in the morning, on the 14th of April, 1386. The Society [9] conſiſts of a Warden and ſeventy poor Scholars, Clerks, Students in Theology, Canon and Civil Law, and Philoſophy: twenty are appointed to the ſtudy of Laws, ten of them to that of the Canon, and ten to that of the Civil Law; the remaining fifty are to apply themſelves to Philoſophy (or Arts) and Theology; two of them, however, are permitted to apply themſelves to the ſtudy of Medicine, and two likewiſe to that of Aſtronomy; all of whom are obliged to be in Prieſts Orders within a certain time, except in caſe of lawful impediment. Beſide theſe there are ten Prieſts, three Clerks, and ſixteen boys or Choriſters, to miniſter in the ſervice of the Chapel.

[8] Tractat. in Vet. Reg. Coll. Wint. & Brev. Chron. The expreſſion in both is, horâ quartâ ante meridiem, and afterwards, horâ tertiâ ante meridiem. Wykeham did not lay the firſt ſtone in perſon, as ſome authors ſay; he was that day at Southwark. Regiſt. Wykeham, part 2. in Ordinat.

[9] Statut. Coll. Oxon.

The body of ſtatutes which Wykeham gave to his College, was a work upon which he beſtowed much time and conſtant attention. It was the reſult of great meditation and ſtudy, aſſiſted, confirmed, and brought to maturity, by long obſervation and experience. He began it with the firſt eſtabliſhment of his Society, and he was continually improving and perfecting it almoſt as long as he lived. And accordingly it has been always conſidered as the moſt judicious and the moſt complete performance in its kind, and as the beſt model which the founders of Colleges in ſucceeding times had to follow; and which indeed moſt of them have either copied, or cloſely imitated.

That the firſt draught of his ſtatutes was made as early as I have mentioned, appears from a letter [1] of Wykeham himſelf, which he wrote to the Warden of his College, ſoon after the Society had made their firſt entrance into it. In this letter he ſpeaks of his ſtatutes, as duly publiſhed and promulged, and in times paſt frequently made known unto them. The great care and attention, which he employed in reviſing his ſtatutes from time to time, and in improving them continually, appears very

[1] See Appendix, N° IX.

evidently

evidently from an ancient draught of them ſtill extant[2]; in which the many alterations, corrections, and additions, made in the margin, ſhew plainly how much pains he beſtowed upon this important work; with how much deliberation, and with what great exactneſs, he weighed every the moſt minute particular belonging to it. The text of theſe ſtatutes appears, by ſome circumſtances which it is needleſs here to enlarge upon, to have been drawn up about the year 1386; and therefore they cannot be the firſt, which he ever made; ſince at that time he ſpeaks of his ſtatutes, as often and long before publiſhed. At[3] the end of the year 1389, he appointed Commiſſaries to receive the oaths of the Warden and Scholars of his College, to obſerve the ſtatutes, which he then tranſmitted to them, ſealed with his ſeal: this was a new edition of them, much corrected and improved; for, I ſuppoſe, it contained all the marginal alterations and additions above mentioned. He gave a third edition of his ſtatutes, reckoning from the time when his College was finiſhed, ſtill much enlarged and corrected, an ancient copy of which likewiſe is

[2] In Archiv. Coll. Nov.

[3] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 102.

yet remaining[4]: it was probably[5] of the year 1393. In[6] the year 1400, he appointed another Commiſſion for the ſame purpoſe, and in the ſame form, with that of the year 1389: with that he ſent to his College a new edition likewiſe of his ſtatutes, ſtill reviſed and enlarged: it is the laſt which he gave, and is the ſame with that now in force.

The original drawings of a great Maſter, compared with the finiſhed paintings which he has made from them, let us more intimately into the true ſpirit of his deſign; they lay open his whole train of thinking, and diſcover the reaſons of all the moſt minute alterations which are made in the progreſs of the work. We ſee evident marks of his invention in compoſing, his care in expreſſing, his judgement in correcting; and have the pleaſure of tracing the ſeveral ſteps by which the whole piece has been brought to perfection: and it ſometimes alſo happens, that we have reaſon to regret the

[4] Coll. Nov. penes Dom. Cuſtodem.

[5] Rot. Comp. Coll. Nov. an. 1393. "In Expns. Magiſtr. "Johannis Haſeley & Roberti Keton, equit. Lond. ad Domi-"num Fundatorem pro ſtatutis reformandis a 2do die Maii p. "10 dies continuo ſequentes, 18s. 6d." Regiſt. Wykeham. ſub dat. Maii 12. 1396. — "in ſtatutis dicti Coll. ultimo "correctis—."

[6] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 182.

effects

effects of too much ſtudy and application, of accuracy and correctneſs purſued too far; when the cool endeavours of art have not been able to reach the warm ſtrokes of genius, and perhaps ſome particular parts of the finiſhed piece have even wanted the propriety and juſtneſs, which they had in the firſt compoſition. In a work of imitation, the artiſt endeavours to expreſs the moſt ſimple appearances of nature, her freeſt and moſt undiſguiſed features, attitudes, and operations; and the firſt impreſſions of theſe, upon a warm imagination, are commonly the liveliеſt and the trueſt. In a work of policy, the legiſlator ought to have chiefly in view the leading motives and main ſprings of human action; and theſe are open and obvious, the moſt eaſily inveſtigated, and the moſt readily ſet to work. The more ſimple the compoſition of his ſyſtem, the more ſurely will it attain its end, without diſorder or impediment. Subordinate parts, and inferior but more complicated principles, will indeed require much care and conſideration: even all the more minute circumſtances ought to be well weighed, and every precaution taken to prevent perverſion and abuſe. Yet may this cloſe attention to particulars be eaſily carried to exceſs: too much refinement will only give the greater ſcope and advantage to evaſion; and it

is

is the uſual misfortune of frequent alteration in a plan once in the main well adjuſted, that while it improves ſome parts, it is attended with unforeſeen inconvenience in others, perhaps, of greater conſequence. Something of this kind, I think, may be obſerved in one of the laſt reviſions which Wykeham made of his ſtatutes, and that in a point of conſiderable importance, the manner of election into his College at Oxford, which ſeems then to have been unhappily altered for the worſe. The method which he had eſtabliſhed at firſt, and which was accordingly obſerved, I believe, till the year 1393, was to fill up the vacancies of the preceding year by an annual election; and that, in caſe before nine or ten months of the current year were paſt, there ſhould happen ſix or more vacancies, they were to be filled up by an interelection. The only inconvenience of this method was, that the Society would very often want of its full complement of members; and Wykeham was very unwilling, that any part of his bounty ſhould ever lie dormant and inactive. By making it a pre-election, to ſupply the vacancies immediately, each as they ſhould fall in the year enſuing, he effectually prevented this inconvenience; but at the ſame time opened a door to much greater inconveniences, to which the new method has been found

found liable[7]; to the greateſt poſſible perverſion of his charity, a ſhameful traffic between the Fellow of the College, that begins to ſit looſe to the Society, and the preſumptive ſucceſſor; an abuſe of which he was not aware, the ſimplicity and probity of that age perhaps affording no example of the like. The laws[8] of the Realm have ſince endeavoured to remedy all abuſes of this kind, but in vain; nor it is perhaps in the power of thoſe, who are moſt concerned to do it, to prevent them in every inſtance: but it behoves all ſuch to exert their utmoſt diligence and reſolution in putting an effectual ſtop to ſo ſcandalous a practice, if they have any regard for the honour of their Society, or for their own reputation.

Wykeham endowed his College with lands and eſtates, whoſe revenues, at that time, were fully ſufficient for the ſupport of it, and amply ſupplied all the uſes and purpoſes for which he deſigned it: he procured a[9] Bulle of the Pope, confirming his ſtatutes, and exempting his College from all juriſdiction, Legatine, Archiepiſcopal and Epiſcopal, except that of the

[7] See Appendix. N° XII.

[8] See Statute 31. Eliz. chap. 6.

[9] In Archivis Regiſtrarii Archidiaconatûs Winton. Dated July 19, 1398.

Biſhop

Biſhop of Wincheſter: for by his ſtatutes he had appointed his ſucceſſors the Biſhops of Wincheſter to be the ſole Viſitors of it, recommending it to their protection and patronage. He himſelf, as long as he lived, cheriſhed his young Society with all the care and affection of a tender parent. He aſſiſted [1] them with his directions in the management of all their affairs: he held ſeveral viſitations of his College by his Commiſſaries; namely, in the years 1385 [2], 1392 [3], and 1400 [4]. And from thence he ſupplied himſelf with men of learning and abilities, whom he admitted to a more intimate attendance upon him, and by whom he tranſacted all his buſineſs: ſuch were [5] Nicholas Wykeham, John Elmer, John and Robert Keton, Walter Aude, Simon Membury, and others; whom he rewarded with ample preferments.

While the Biſhop was engaged in building his College at Oxford, he eſtabliſhed in proper form his Society at Wincheſter. His [6] Charter of foundation bears date October the 20th,

[1] Rot. Comp. Coll. Nov. paſſim. See Appendix, N° IX, X and XI.

[2] Regiſt. Wykeham, part. 2. b. fol. 74.

[3] Rot. Comp. Coll. Nov. hujus anni.

[4] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 182.

[5] Regiſt. Wykeham, & Rot. Comp. Coll. Nov. paſſim.

[6] Lib. H. Coll. Wint. fol. 85.

1382,

1382, by which he nominates [7] Thomas de Cranle Warden, admits the Scholars, and gives his College the ſame name of **Seinte Marie College of Wynchester.** The next year after he had finiſhed his building at Oxford, he began that at Wincheſter, for which he [8] had obtained both the Pope's and the King's licence long before. A natural affection and prejudice for the very place, which he had frequented in his early days, ſeems to have had its weight in determining the ſituation of it: the ſchool [9], which Wykeham went to when he was a boy, was where his College now ſtands. The firſt [1] ſtone was laid on March the 26th, 1387, at nine o'clock in the morning: it took up ſix years likewiſe in building, and the Warden and Society made their ſolemn entrance into it, chanting in proceſſion, at nine o'clock in the

[7] He had been Fellow of Merton College; was made Warden of New College by the Founder, 1389; he was Chancellor of the Univerſity of Oxford; made Archbiſhop of Dublin, 1397; died 1417. For a further account of his uncommon endowments and abilities, ſee Ware de Præſul. Hibern. or Annals of Ireland, in Camden's Britannia, Edit. Gibſon, Appendix to Vol. II.

[8] Lib. H. Coll. Wint. fol. 23 and 81. Note, that the Pope's Bulle of licence is dated June 1, 1378. The King's was obtained, an. Richardi II. 6to. Index Rot. Pat. Biblioth. Cotton. Titus, c. 3.

[9] MS. Coll. Wint.

[1] Tractat in Vet. Regiſt. Coll. Wint. & Brev. Chron.

morning

morning on March the 28th, 1393. The ſchool had now ſubſiſted near twenty years, having been opened at Michaelmas 1373. It was completely eſtabliſhed from the firſt to its full number of ſeventy Scholars, and to all other intents and purpoſes; and continued all along to furniſh the Society at Oxford with proper ſubjects by election. It was at firſt committed to the care of a Maſter and Undermaſter only: in the year 1382, it was placed under the ſuperior government of a Warden. This was the whole Society that made their formal entrance into it, as abovementioned. Till the College was erected, they were provided with lodgings in the [2] pariſh of St. John upon the Hill. The [3] firſt nomination of Fellows was made by the Founder on the 20th of December, 1394. He nominated five only, though he had at that time determined the number to ten. But the Chapel was not yet quite finiſhed; nor was it [4] dedicated and conſecrated till the middle of the next year: ſoon after which, we may ſuppoſe, that the full number of Fellows, and of all other members deſigned to bear a more particular relation to the ſervice of

[2] See Appendix, N° X. It is called the pariſh of St. John Baptiſt upon St. Giles's Hill, in Regiſt. Coll. Wint. an. 1453.

[3] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 132.

[4] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 136.

it,

it, was completed by him. The whole Society [5] conſiſts of a Warden, ſeventy poor Scholars, to be inſtructed in Grammatical learning, ten ſecular Prieſts perpetual Fellows, three Prieſts Chaplains, three Clerks, and ſixteen Choriſters: and for the inſtruction of the Scholars, a Schoolmaſter, and an Undermaſter or Uſher.

The ſtatutes, which he gave to his College at Wincheſter, and which are referred to in the Charter of Foundation, are as it were the counterpart of thoſe of his College at Oxford: he amended, improved, and enlarged the former, by the ſame ſteps as he had done the latter; and he gave the laſt edition, and [6] received the oaths of the ſeveral members of the Society to the obſervance of them, by his Commiſſaries appointed for the purpoſe, September the 9th, 1400. In this caſe he had no occaſion to make a particular proviſion in conſtituting a Viſitor of his College; the ſituation of it coincided with his deſign, and he left it under the Ordinary Juriſdiction of the Dioceſan, the Biſhop of Wincheſter. Beſides, he had here taken a further precaution for ſecuring the due obſervance of his ſtatutes, by making his

[5] Statut. Coll. Wint.

[6] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 181.

College at Wincheſter ſubordinate, as well in government and diſcipline, as in uſe and deſign, to that at Oxford. He placed the former under the conſtant care and inſpection of the latter, by appointing a ſolemn Viſitation to be held there every year, by the Warden of his ſuperior College in conjunction with two other Superviſors annually choſen out of the Fellows of the ſame College.

Wykeham enjoyed for many years the pleaſure, a pleaſure the greateſt to a good and generous heart that can be enjoyed, of ſeeing the good effects of his own beneficence, and receiving in them the proper reward of his pious labours; of obſerving his Colleges growing up under his eye, and continually bringing forth thoſe fruits of virtue, piety, and learning, which he had reaſon to expect from them. They continued ſtill to riſe in reputation, and furniſhed the Church and State with many eminent and able men in all profeſſions. Not

[7] "Non equidem fefellit opinio: nam inde, velut ex equo "Trojano, viri omni tempore virtute excellentes prodeunt." Polyd. Virgil. Aug. Hiſt. lib. xix.

"Neque Collegium quodvis aliud vel plures, vel ad negotia "tum ſacra tum civilia procuranda magis idoneos, in Eccleſiam "aut Rempublicam emiſiſſe conſtat." A. Wood. Hiſt. Univ. Oxon. Lib. II. p. 158.

long

long after his death, one of his own Scholars, whom he had himſelf ſeen educated in both his Societies, and raiſed under his inſpection, and probably with his favour and aſſiſtance in conjunction with his own great merits, to a conſiderable degree of eminence, became an illuſtrious follower of his great example. This was Henry Chicheley, Archbiſhop of Canterbury; who[9], beſide a Chantry and Hoſpital, which he built at Higham-Ferrers, the place of his birth, founded likewiſe All Souls College in Oxford, for the maintenance of forty Fellows (beſide Chaplains, Clerks, and Choriſters) who, according to Wykeham's plan, are appointed, twenty-four of them to the ſtudy of Theology and Philoſophy, and the remaining ſixteen to that of the Canon and Civil Laws. He gave a handſome teſtimony of his affection, eſteem, and gratitude, towards the College in which he had received his Academical education, by a conſiderable preſent, (1231. 6s. and 8d. to be a fund for loans to the Fellows on proper

[8] "Venerabilis Vir Magiſter Henricus Chichele, L L D. "Canonicus Sarum. Reverendi in Chriſto Patris domini Richardi "Dei gratia Epiſc. Sarum: in remotis agentis Vicarius in Spiri-"tualibus Generalis. Jun. 9, 1398."——Regiſt. Wykeham, part 1. fol. 286.

[9] A. Wood. Hiſt. Univ. Oxon. lib. 2, p. 172, &c. Tanner. Notit. Monaſt. p. 388, and 441.

occaſions;) and by appointing Dr. Richard Andrews, one of that Society, and with whom he had contracted a perſonal acquaintance there, to be the firſt Governor of his own College.

Shortly after this, Henry the Sixth founded his two Colleges of Eton and Cambridge intirely upon Wykeham's plan, whoſe ſtatutes he has tranſcribed without any material alteration. While the King was employed in this pious work, he [1] frequently honoured Wincheſter College with his preſence; not only to teſtify the favour and regard which he bore to that Society, but that he might alſo more nearly inſpect, and perſonally examine, the laws, the ſpirit, the ſucceſs, and good effects, of an inſtitution, which he propoſed to himſelf for a model. From hence it appears, that his imitation of Wykeham's plan is not to be imputed to a caſual thought of his own, or a partial recommendation from another, or an approbation founded only on common report or popular opinion; but was the reſult of deliberate inquiry, of knowlege and experience. He came to Wincheſter College five ſeveral times with this deſign, and was afterwards frequently there, during his reſidence for above a month

[1] See Appendix, N° XIII.

at

at Winchester, when the Parliament was held there in the year 1449. He was always received with all the honours and respect due to so illustrious a guest; and as constantly testified his satisfaction by some memorial of his good-will and affection towards the Society. At one time, he made them a present of one hundred nobles to adorn the high altar, with [2] which was purchased a pair of large basons of silver gilt: at another, he gave his best robe, save one, consisting of cloth of tissue of gold and fur of sables, which [3] was likewise applied to the use of the Chapel: at others, he gave a chalice of gold, two phials of gold, and a tabernacle of gold, adorned [4] with precious stones, and with the images of the Holy Trinity, and the Blessed Virgin, of chrystall. He moreover confirmed and enlarged the liberties and privileges, which his Royal Predecessors had granted to that Society.

William [5] of Waynflete was Schoolmaster of Winchester College, at the time when the King made his first visit, and had been so about eleven years: he had filled that important post

[2] Vet. Regist. Coll. Wint.
[3] Ibid. [4] Ibid.
[5] Regist. Coll. Wint.

with ſuch ability, and had executed his office with ſuch diligence, judgement, and ſucceſs, that the King, to give his new ſeminary the greateſt advantage it could poſſibly have, that of an excellent and approved inſtructor, removed him next year to the ſame [6] employment at Eton. He ſoon afterwards made him Provoſt of Eton College; and then, by his recommendation, Biſhop of Wincheſter. Waynflete continued many years in this ſtation; and was thence enabled to become another generous imitator of his great predeceſſor Wykeham, in his [7] noble and ample foundation of Magdalen College in Oxford. He alſo paid New College, out of his eſteem for it, and reſpect to its Founder, (for he had never been himſelf of that Society) the compliment, of chooſing from thence Dr. Richard Mayew to be Preſident of his College; and [8] of permitting his Fellows to have an equal regard to the members of the ſame Society with thoſe of their own, in the choice of their Preſidents for the future.

Having mentioned the ſingular honour done to Wincheſter College by the repeated viſits of

[6] Budden. in Vita Waynfleti. Parker, ad an. 1447.

[7] A. Wood. Hiſt. Univ. Oxon. lib. 2. p. 187, &c. Tanner. Notit. Monaſt. p. 441.

[8] Statut. Coll. Magd. Oxon.

a Royal

a Royal Guest, I cannot wholly pass over some distinctions of the same kind, as they happen to be recorded, which Wykeham's other College received in his lifetime, and which were intended as testimonies of respect to its Founder, as well as of favour to the Society. About the latter end of the year 1388, a Great Council was held at Oxford, at which the principal of the nobility assisted. The New College, as it was called, was at this time an object of curiosity; it was but lately finished, and was by much the most considerable in its appearance of any then extant: so that it is no wonder, if the great personages there assembled expressed an inclination to see it. Nicholas Wykeham the Warden, either in compliance with the Founder's general directions, or more probably in obedience to his express orders on this occasion, took this opportunity of sending them an invitation to his College, which was accepted; and he had the honour of entertaining the nobility with their attendants at his lodgings.

[9] Rot. Comp. Coll. Nov. an. 1388-9. — "Et in Expens. "fact. in Aula Custodis tempore Consilii Regis & aliorum Do- "minorum regni per Magistrum Nicholaum de Wykeham pro "tunc custod. pro diversis Dominis & eorum famul. vi. l. "xiii. d."

But the [1] moſt memorable compliment of this kind was paid to that Society about four years afterwards by the Duke of Lancaſter. He made a viſit to the College, accompanied by four Knights, and a large train of attendants; and was entertained there, according [2] to the conſtant uſage of that time, with comfits, ſpices, and wine. I mention this the rather, as it is a proof, that the Biſhop of Wincheſter was at this time upon very good terms with the Duke; as indeed he had been ever ſince, as well as before, the great diſagreement, that happened between them at the end of Edward the Third's time. We [3] find them, very ſoon after this great quarrel, joining together in a common ſuit, in behalf of the Dean and Chancellor of St. Paul's London, and the Biſhop of London's Vicar General, to the Archbiſhop of Canterbury; who had publiſhed a ſevere ſentence of deprivation againſt them, for reſiſting his authority. Nor do there remain any indications, or any the leaſt traces, of ill-will ſubſiſting between them ever after.

[1] Rot. Comp. Coll. Nov. an. 1392-3. "Et in expenſ. fact. "pro Domino Duce Lancaſtr. cum iv. Militibus & aliis multis "de familia ſua venient. ad Collegium 13° die Feb. videlicet in "2 lib. de confect. & ½ lib. draget. & 6 lagen. vini. vi. ſ. x. d."

[2] Froiſſart. paſſim.

[3] Parker. Antiq. Brit. ad an. 1379.

Their

Their enmity was occasional and political only, not personal; and when the cause of it ceased, like true courtiers, they dropped their resentment, and became good friends: I mean, as good friends, as courtiers usually are, and very ready to pay one another, upon all common occasions, the mutual offices of civility, attention, and respect.

To proceed to some further memorials of Wykeham, in his Episcopal capacity: The Archbishops of Canterbury and the Abbots of St. Austin's in the same city interfered very much with one another in their situation and privileges; and it was not to be expected, that two such great personages, in such circumstances, should ever be good neighbours. The constant jealousy that arose from hence was in effect the cause of frequent disputes between them: the Archbishops watched every opportunity of establishing a disputed power; and the Abbots were always upon their guard against all attempts from that quarter. In [a] the year 1380, Sudbury Archbishop of Canterbury had a mind to assert his authority over the Abby, as Legate by office of the Holy See, though it was exempt from his Archiepiscopal

[a] W. Thorn. Chronica apud X Scriptores, col. 2155.

juris-

juriſdiction: he pretended to make a viſit of devotion to the bodies of the ſaints buried there, and was coming thither robed in his Pontificals, and with the Croſs carried before him. Michael Peckham the Abbot alleging in defence of the privilege and exemption of his Abby, that he had no right to come thither in ſuch form and without permiſſion, ſhut the gates againſt him; and placed a guard of armed men there to reſiſt him, if he ſhould attempt to enter by force. Here was matter enough for a long and violent contention: the Archbiſhop made his complaint to the Pope of the injury and affront offered him, and the Abbot on the other hand pleaded the rights and immunities of his Abby. The Pope referred the whole matter to Wykeham, and by his Bulls gave him full powers to judge in the cauſe, to cite all perſons, however privileged and exempted, and to give ſentence in it, which was to be final and without appeal. Wykeham ſeems to have been very properly choſen upon this occaſion, as one to whom neither party was likely to have any exception, as judge or mediator in the diſpute: the Archbiſhop could have no diſtruſt of one of his brethren; and no Biſhop would probably have been more agreeable to the Abbot, than the perſon from [5] whoſe

[5] Regiſtr. Wykeham. part 1. fol. 65. W. Thorn. ibid. col. 2151.

hands,

hands, by the Pope's permiſſion, and at his own requeſt, he had received the ſolemn benediction on his promotion to that great dignity. But he had too much experience and caution to be overhaſty in proceeding in ſo delicate an affair, in which the moſt prudent and upright arbitrator could only expect to reap offence and ill-will from one or other, or perhaps both of the parties. However, the miſerable fate of the poor Archbiſhop, who about the middle of the next year was murdered by the rebels on Towerhill, prevented all difficulties of this kind, and put an end to the whole diſpute for the preſent. My author, an honeſt Monk, at that very time one of the fraternity of St. Auſtin's, and no doubt a vehement ſtickler for the privileges of his houſe, ſeems to think his Abbot was endowed with the gift of prophecy, in his anſwer to ſome threatnings of the Archbiſhop; and piouſly ſuppoſes, that the Prelate's unhappy end was a judgement from heaven, inflicted on him by the ſaints and patrons of the Monaſtery, exerting themſelves in defence of God's ſervants.

In [6] the year 1382 the Biſhops and Clergy began to be greatly alarmed at the progreſs,

[6] A. Wood. Hiſt. Univ. Oxon. lib. 1. p. 190. Fox, Vol. 1. p. 407.

which

which Wickliff's principles and doctrines were daily making, and especially in the University of Oxford. Several Professors and Doctors, of the first distinction for learning there, began to defend and maintain them in the schools, and to preach them publickly; and in so doing were openly encouraged and supported by the countenance of the magistrates of the University, and particularly by the authority of the Chancellor Dr. Robert Rygge.

Courtney[7] Archbishop of Canterbury thought it high time to inquire into this matter, and to take proper measures for putting a stop to this growing sect; for this purpose, and to give all possible weight and solemnity to his proceedings, he summoned to his assistance some of his brethren the Bishops, and several other Doctors in Divinity and Laws; all of them persons most eminent for their skill and learning, and soundness in religion. They met at the Black Friars London, and having examined the conclusions reported to have been maintained by these Preachers, unanimously condemned them, some as heretical, others as erroneous. This determination the Archbishop sent down to Oxford, ordering at the same time the Chancellor to assist at the publishing, by the

[7] Wilkins Concil. Mag. Brit. Vol. 3. p. 157, &c.

Bedel

Bedel of the Faculty of Divinity, this ſolemn condemnation of Wickliff's tenets. The Chancellor not only refuſed to obey the Archbiſhop's mandate, on pretence that it was an infringement of the privileges of the Univerſity, but threatned to oppoſe by force any one, that ſhould attempt to publiſh the articles of condemnation. Accordingly he got a conſiderable number of the party, armed, as it was ſaid, under their gowns, to attend him; and by this means ſo intimidated the Archbiſhop's agents, that no one dared to move in it. Dr. Philip Repyngdon, at this time the moſt ſtrenuous and the moſt able defender of Wickliff's cauſe, (though ſoon afterwards he recanted, and, being made Biſhop of Lincoln, became the moſt vehement oppoſer and perſecutor of it) had given out beforehand, that he would maintain Wickliff's doctrines in his ſermon at St. Frideſwyd's on the feaſt of Corpus Chriſti; and he did not fail to anſwer the expectation he had raiſed. The Chancellor, who had appointed him to preach, was preſent, and being ſurrounded by a guard of his party, protected him from all interruption and inſult: and afterwards openly received him with marks of approbation, and returned him thanks. The Archbiſhop, upon report made to him of theſe particulars, cited the Chancellor to appear before

fore him. The Chancellor obeyed, and came before the Archbiſhop, and his Synod of Biſhops and Doctors, once more ſolemnly convened at the Black Friars.

The Biſhop of Wincheſter aſſiſted at each of theſe Aſſemblies, and was, after the Archbiſhop, the principal perſon there. What ſhare he took in the management of this affair, or with what ſpirit he acted in it, does not at all appear from any authentic evidence, except in this one circumſtance: that [8] when the Chancellor made his ſubmiſſion to the Archbiſhop, and begged pardon for his offence, the Biſhop of Wincheſter ſtrenuouſly interceded for him, and with much difficulty procured his peace; upon which the Archbiſhop was ſatisfied with reprimanding him for what was paſt, and giving him a ſevere admonition with regard to his behaviour for the future. It ſhould ſeem from hence, that Wykeham was inclined to mild and gentle methods of proceeding in this important and delicate buſineſs: but the Biſhops in general were not in the ſame way of thinking; contrary meaſures were purſued; the Wickliffiſts were perſecuted and diſperſed; the ſeeds of the Reformation were ſown more

[8] A. Wood. & Fox, ibid.

widely

widely, and the harveſt, by being delayed, became the more plentiful.

A great [9] quarrel happened this year between the Priory of St. Frideſwyd and the Univerſity of Oxford, on occaſion of the latter's encroaching upon certain rights and privileges of the former. The King, upon frequent complaints made to him by the Priory, interpoſed more than once with his authority, by writs directed to the Univerſity, forbidding all ſuch encroachments; but without effect. Upon which he gave a [1] commiſſion to the Biſhop of Wincheſter and ſix others, to inquire into the merits of the cauſe, and to determine it finally. The Commiſſioners gave judgement in favour of the Priory, and the Univerſity ſubmitted to their deciſion.

The Biſhop [2] of Wincheſter was likewiſe one of four Commiſſioners appointed by the King to judge in a diſpute that had ariſen among the fellows of Oriel College, on occaſion of the election of a Provoſt in the year 1385; which was happily compoſed by their interpoſition.

[9] A. Wood. Hiſt. Univ. Oxon. lib. 1. p. 189.
[1] MS. Rymer. R. 2. Vol. 2. N° 64. dated Nov. 18. an. reg. 6.
[2] A. Wood. Hiſt. Univ. Oxon. Lib. 1. p. 194.

In

In [3] the yeat 1393, Wykeham held a fourth Viſitation of the Monaſtery of his Cathedral Church of Wincheſter. The principal objects of his inquiry at this time were, the ſtate and condition of the Fabric; and that of the Society, both in reſpect to the number of members, and the proper ſupply of proviſions allotted to them. The Convent had in former times conſiſted of ſixty Monks, but was now reduced to forty ſix; and theſe were but ſcantily ſerved with proviſions: for the Priors had for ſome time converted to their own uſe the profits of certain eſtates, which were appropriated to the neceſſary ſupport of the Monks; and this had been the occaſion of much diſſenſion between them and their ſuperior. The Biſhop by his Injunctions orders, that the number of Monks be increaſed to ſixty, as ſoon as may be; and that the Prior, for the time being, pay yearly out of his profits 40 l. towards their due ſupport: upon which conſideration the Monks renounce all further claim upon him. What ſucceſs the Biſhop might have in his endeavours to reſtore peace to the ſociety, we cannot ſay; but his deſign of augmenting it to the ancient number, for which indeed he had given general

[3] MS. Harleian. N° 328. fol. 12, &c.

orders

orders in his former injunctions, ſeems ſtill to have been ineffectual; for at the time of his death we find [a] it was reduced ſtill lower, to the number of forty two Monks.

The other object of his inquiry proved a matter of no leſs difficulty. The Fabric of the Church was greatly out of repair, and the eſtates allotted to that uſe were very inſufficient for it. The Biſhop ordered, that the Prior for the time being, ſhould pay 100 l. a year for ſeven years enſuing, and the Subprior and Convent 100 marks in like manner, for this ſervice; over and above the profits of all eſtates ſo allotted, and all gifts and legacies. Whether it were that their revenues proved unequal to ſuch a burthen; or that the neceſſary repairs required a much larger ſupply; or that the Biſhop was not ſatisfied with providing for a repair only, and what was merely neceſſary; we find, that ſoon after he relieved the Prior and Convent from the whole charge, and with his uſual generoſity took it intirely upon himſelf.

For having about this time almoſt finiſhed his College at Wincheſter, he began to be at liberty to look out for ſome new object of his

[a] Leger-book of the Church of Wint. N° 1. fol. 20.

munificence, which he never could ſuffer long to continue vacant and unemployed: and he ſoon determined to undertake the repair, or rather the rebuilding, of great part of his Cathedral Church. The [5] whole fabric then ſtanding was erected by Biſhop Walkelin, who began it in the year 1079. It was of the [6] Saxon architecture, not greatly differing from the Roman; with round pillars, much ſtronger than Doric or Tuſcan, or ſquare piers adorned with ſmall pillars; round-headed arches and windows; and plain walls on the outſide without buttreſſes: as appears by the croſs-aile and tower which remain of it to this day. The nave of the Church had been for ſome time in a bad condition: [7] Biſhop Edyngdon undertook to repair it in the latter part of his time, and by his will ordered his executors to finiſh what he had begun. And, whether in purſuance of his deſign, and by his benefaction, or otherwiſe, it appears, [8] that in the year 1371, ſome work of this kind was carrying on at a great

[5] Tho. Rudborne apud Wharton. Ang. Sacr. Vol. 1. p. 294, 295. Vid. etiam p. 256, 285. W. Malmeſbury.

[6] Sir Chriſtopher Wren's Hiſtorical account of Weſtminſter Abby, in a Letter to Biſhop Atterbury. See Wren's Parentalia, or Widmore's Hiſt. of Weſtminſter Abby.

[7] Wharton. Ang. Sacr. Vol. 1. p. 317.

[8] Regiſt. Wykeham. part 3. a. fol. 47.

expence.

expence. However, Wykeham, upon due conſideration and ſurvey, found it either ſo decayed and infirm, or elſe ſo mean in its appearance, and ſo much below the dignity of one of the firſt Epiſcopal ſees in the kingdom, that he determined to take down the whole from the Tower weſtward, and to rebuild it both in a ſtronger and more magnificent manner. This great work he undertook in the year 1394, [9] and entered upon it the beginning of the next year, upon the following [1] conditions, ſtipulated between him and the Prior and Convent; who acquit the Biſhop of all obligation to it, and acknowlege it as proceeding from his mere liberality, and zeal for the honour of God: They agree to find the whole ſcaffolding neceſſary for the work; they give the Biſhop free leave to dig and to carry away chalk and ſand from any of their lands, as he ſhall think moſt convenient and uſeful for the ſame purpoſe; and they allow the whole materials of the old building to be applied to the uſe of the new. He employed William Winford as Architect:

[9] "Novam fabricam [Eccleſiæ Wynton.] incepit die Mercurii "prox. poſt feſtum omnium Sanctorum anno regni Regis Richardi "II. XVIII. & anno conſecrationis dicti Patris XXVIII." MS. Coll. Wint.

[1] Leger-book of Wincheſter Church, N° 1. fol. 18. & Appendix, N° XVII.

Simon Membury was appointed ſurveyor of the work on the Biſhop's part, and John Wayte, one of the Monks, controller on the part of the Convent. As the Church of Wincheſter is ſituated in low ground, which, without great precaution and expence, affords no very ſure foundation for ſo weighty a ſtructure, Wykeham thought it ſafeſt to confine himſelf to the plan of the former building, and to make uſe of a foundation already tried, and ſubject to no hazard. He even choſe to apply to his purpoſe ſome part of the lower order of pillars of the old Church, though his deſign was in a different ſtyle of architecture; that which, for reaſons not very apparent, we commonly call Gothic, with pointed arches and windows, without key-ſtones, and with pillars conſiſting of an aſſemblage of many ſmall ones cloſely connected together. This [a] mode of Architecture came into uſe about the time of Henry II; and having prevailed for about three centuries, and being juſt arrived at laſt to a great degree of perfection under Henry VIII, ſunk at once, together with the Monaſteries, in the Revolution of Religion introduced by that Monarch. The pillars or piers of the old building, which Wykeham made uſe of, were about ſixteen feet

[a] See Bentham's Hiſt. of Ely Cath. p. 37, &c.

in

in highth; of the ſame form with thoſe in the eaſt ſide of the northern Croſs-aile: theſe he carried up higher, according to the new deſign, altering their form, but retaining their ſtrength, and adopting them as a firm baſis for his own work. The new pillars are nearly equal in bulk to the old ones; and the intercolumnation remains much the ſame. Theſe circumſtances, in which ſtability and ſecurity were very wiſely in the firſt place conſulted, have been attended however with ſome inconveniences; for to them it muſt be imputed, if this building has not that lightneſs and freedom, and that elegance of proportion, which might have been expected from Wykeham's known taſte in architecture, and from the ſtyle and manner of his other works in this kind; of which we have evident examples in the Chapels of both his Colleges, eſpecially in the weſtern part of that of New College in Oxford, which is remarkably beautiful. To the further diſadvantage of its preſent appearance, an alteration, which could not then be foreſeen, has ſince happened. At that time the buildings of the Monaſtery covered the whole ſouth ſide of the Church, ſo that it ſeemed needleſs to be at a great expence upon ornaments in that part, which probably would be for ever concealed.

By the demolition of the Monaſtery this ſide is now laid open, and diſcovers a defect of buttreſſes and pinnacles, with which the north ſide, which was then the only one in view, is properly furniſhed. Another alteration of the ſame kind has been made in the inſide, and with the like effect: immediately before the entrance of the Choir ſtood the Veſtry, which extending from ſide to ſide of the Nave, prevented the intire conformation of thoſe pillars, againſt which it reſted, to the new deſign, but at the ſame time concealed the irregularity: in the time of Charles the Firſt this was pulled down, and the preſent beautiful ſkreen, the work of Inigo Jones, was erected; but no care was taken, by an eaſy and obvious alteration, to correct a deformity, which was then uncovered, and ſtill continues to diſgrace the building, in a part moſt frequently expoſed to obſervation. However, with all its defects, which appear thus to be owing partly to an accidental and unforeſeen change of circumſtances, partly to the care of avoiding greater inconveniences, there is no fabric of its kind in England, after thoſe of York and Lincoln, which excells this part of the Cathedral Church of Wincheſter, in greatneſs, ſtatelineſs, and majeſty. This great pile took up about ten years

years in erecting, and [3] was but juſt finiſhed when the Biſhop died. He [4] had provided in his will for the intire completion of his deſign by his executors in caſe of his death; and allotted 2500 marks for what then remained to be done, beſides 500 marks for the glaſs windows: this was about a year and a half before it was finiſhed; by which ſome ſort of eſtimate may be made of the whole expence.

[3] "Quod quidem opus feliciter conſummavit." Tractat. in Vet. Regiſt. Coll. Wint. See alſo Appendix, N° XVI. But the article of agreement between the Biſhop and the Convent, dated Auguſt 16, 1404, ſuppoſes it at that time not quite finiſhed. Leger-book Ch. of Wincheſter, N° I. fol. 18.

[4] See Appendix, N° XVII.

THE LIFE OF WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM.

SECTION VII.

Civil affairs during the latter Part of the Reign of Richard the Second.

WE have ſeen the part, which the Biſhop of Wincheſter had hitherto acted under Richard II: not wholly retiring from civil affairs, nor forward to engage in them; ready to give his aſſiſtance in the public ſervice, whenever it was demanded; prompted to it by duty to his country, not incited by any private intereſts, or ambitious views of his own. He maintained the ſame conduct, and the ſame reſerve, throughout this whole reign; but could not

not avoid being borne away by the tide of public buſineſs, further than his own inclination or judgement would have carried him in times of ſo great danger and difficulty. Two parties began now to divide the nation; and, as it uſually happens, the bounds of moderation were little obſerved on either ſide. The King was wholly poſſeſſed by a ſet of favourites and flatterers, intent upon their own views of avarice and ambition, and totally regardleſs of their maſter's honour or the good of the public. The chief of theſe were, Robert de Vere Earl of Oxford, created by him Marquiſs of Dublin and Duke of Ireland: a young man of no abilities, nor any other merit, than that of a graceful perſon, and an unlimited compliance with the King's humour. Michael de la Pole, made earl of Suffolk and Chancellor; a man of excellent parts and fine natural endowments; but who had not, either by nobility of birth or dignity of character, ſufficient credit and authority for the ſtation, to which he was raiſed; nor any other principle, than that of uſing all means whatever of eſtabliſhing his fortune by cultivating the King's favour and partiality towards him. Alexander Nevil Archbiſhop of York, and Sir Simon Burley: both men of credit and capacity, and the latter a ſervant of the late Prince of Wales, and placed by him near

near his ſon's perſon; but neither of them had the courage or honeſty to make uſe of his influence and authority, which was very great with the young King, in giving him proper advice, and checking him in his exceſſes. The King himſelf was of that eaſy and complying temper, which laid him open to the practices of inſinuation and flattery, and rendered him wholly ſubſervient to the will of thoſe, who had gained his affections. As he had no great inclination, ſo neither was he encouraged or ſuffered by his favourites, to apply himſelf to public affairs: he purſued nothing but his pleaſures; he loved feaſting and jollity, the company of the ſprightlieſt young men and the gayeſt ladies of his court; he was immoderately fond of pomp and ſhew [1], a multitude of attendants, and extravagance of every ſort in his way of living. His [2] Court was the moſt ſplendid and magnificent of all of that time; and the ſtanding expence of his houſhold far exceeded what it had ever been in any preced-

[1] "Fertur tamen quod inter alias hujus mundi divitias fecit "ſibi fieri unam tunicam de perillis & aliis lapidibus preciosis & "auro ex propria ordinatione factam ad 30,000 marcarum in "valorem appreciatam." Monach. Eveſham. in Vita R^di. 2^di. p. 156. Edit. Hearn.

[2] Froiſſart.

ing

ing reign. It is ſaid [3], that the retainers to the court, ſuch as daily reſorted thither, and had tables provided for them there, amounted to ten thouſand perſons. There were three hundred ſervants in the kitchen; and every other office was furniſhed in the like proportion. The courtiers ſtudied to pleaſe the King's taſte, and gave into an expenſiveneſs of equipage and dreſs, that exceeded all bounds: the example had an univerſal influence, and vanity and profuſeneſs

[3] John Hardyng, who may be reckoned a contemporary writer, (for he ſays, that he himſelf ſaw the earthquake in the year 1382,) gives the following account of Richard the Second's Court, upon the information of one that was an officer in it.

Trewly I herde Robert Ivelefe ſaie
Clerke of the grenecloth, that to the houſeholde
Come every daie for moſte partie alwaie
Ten thouſande folke be his meſes tolde
That followed the houſeholde aie as they wolde,
And in the kechyn thre hundreth ſervytours
And in ech office many occupiours.

And ladies faier with theire gentle women,
Chambrers alſo and lavenders,
Thre hundreth were accounted of thepm then.
Ther waſe grete pride amonge the officers
And over all men fer paſſynge theire compers
Of riche arraie and muche more coſtiouſe
Than waſe before or ſith and more pretiouſe.

Women

fuſeneſs ſoon became the prevailing humour of the nation. Though the people were pleaſed at firſt with the ſplendid appearance of the court, and were ready enough to run into the ſame ſpirit of extravagance; yet as ſoon as they felt the neceſſary conſequence of it upon themſelves, in a new burthen of taxes, continually increaſing, and rendered ſtill more burthenſome as they themſelves grew leſs frugal, they began to murmur againſt the King, to withdraw their affection from him by degrees, and at laſt to hate him. No vice whatever can be inſignificant, and of little importance, in Princes: even their levities and indiſcretions have often the moſt pernicious effects with regard to their ſubjects, and are of the moſt fatal conſequence to themſelves.

Women and gromys in cloth of ſilk arraied
Satyn and damaske in doblettes and in gownes
In cloth of graine and skarlett for unpaied
Cutt werke waſe grete both in courte and townes
[*Bothe in mens hoodes and alſo in their gownes]
Browdroure and furres goldeſmyth werk aie newe
In many wiſe ech daie they dide renewe.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

Grete taxe the kynge aie toke through all the londe
For whiche comons hym hated free and bonde.

Hardyng's Chronicle. MS. Harleian, N° 661. fol. 150.

* This verſe not in MS: ſupplied from Grafton's Edition.

The

The party that oppoſed the court was headed by the Duke of Gloceſter, the youngeſt of the King's uncles. He was a man of conſiderable abilities, and great ſpirit and reſolution; active, bold, and vehement; eaſily fired, and incapable of diſſembling his opinions or his reſentments. He ſeems to have had the honour of the nation, and the public good, ſincerely at heart; but failed of attaining his ends, by purſuing them with too much violence: by the impetuoſity of his temper he drove the King to extremities, when more gentle methods might have ſucceeded better both for himſelf and his country. His brothers, the Dukes of Lancaſter and York, may properly be accounted of the ſame party: but the former was often abſent in purſuit of his own foreign intereſts, and it was always in the King's power to gain him by a proper bait thrown out to his ambition: the latter [5] was of an indolent diſpoſition, a lover

[5] That Edmonde hight of langeley of goode chere
Glade and mery and of his own aie leved
Withoutyn wronge as chronyclers have breved.

When all lordes went to counſels and Parlement,
He wolde to huntes and alſo to haukynge
All gentilnes diſporte that myrth appent

He

lover of pleaſure, and averſe to buſineſs; eaſily prevailed upon to lie ſtill and conſult his own quiet, and never acting with ſpirit upon any occaſion. The King was always jealous of his uncles; during his minority, of the Duke of Lancaſter chiefly; afterwards of the Duke of Gloceſter: and the nation at firſt ſeems to have been in the ſame diſpoſition towards them; for the Parliament never truſted them with the King's education, nor with the care of his perſon, and ſcarcely with any ſhare in the public adminiſtration, ſo far as ſeemed properly due to their great quality, ſtation, and influence; and it was manifeſtly the intereſt of the favourites to concur with both in excluding them

He uſed aie and to the poor ſupportynge
Wher ever he wase in any place bidynge
Withoute ſuppriſe or any extorcion
Of the poraile or any oppreſſion.

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

The kynge than made the Duke of Yorke he name
Maiſter of the Newehouſe and of haukes feire
Of his venerie and maiſter of his game
In whatt cuntraie that he dide repeire
Whiche wase to hym withoute any diſpeire
Well more comforte and a gretter gladenes
Than been a lorde of worldely grete riches.

Ibid. fol. 147.

intirely.

intirely. The other leaders of the popular party were, Henry of Bolingbroke Earl of Derby, the Duke of Lancaſter's ſon; the Earl of Arundel, with his brother the Biſhop of Ely; the Earls of Nottingham, and Warwick; the principal noblemen of the kingdom for their power, credit, and abilities.

The King's extravagance, and the greedineſs of his courtiers, kept him always needy and dependent. The murmurs of the people, and the complaints in Parliament of miſmanagement of the revenue, and of the expence of the King's houſhold, had never ceaſed from almoſt the beginning of his reign; and ſo far were they from being effectually redreſſed, that the grounds and cauſes of them were continually increaſing. A conjuncture now offered, that gave the Parliament an opportunity of exerting itſelf with more advantage, and calling the miniſters and favourites to a ſevere account. In [6] the ſummer of the year 1386 the French had made vaſt preparations for an invaſion of England; a great army was immediately raiſed for the defence of the kingdom, and a Parliament was called in the beginning of October, to ſupport the neceſſary expences on this occa-

[6] Knyghton inter X ſcriptores. T. Walſingham.

ſion.

ſion. The Earl of Suffolk, Chancellor, opened the Parliament by demanding a very large ſupply: the Parliament made no anſwer to this demand, but addreſſed the King to remove the Chancellor and Treaſurer from their offices. The King received this addreſs with great indignation, and returned a moſt haughty anſwer to it; and to ſhew how little inclined he was to countenance the deſigns formed againſt his miniſters, or to concur with the Parliament in their proceedings, he withdrew to his palace at Eltham. After ſeveral meſſages had paſſed between them to no purpoſe, the Parliament at laſt ſent to him his uncle the Duke of Gloceſter and Arundel Biſhop of Ely, who ſo openly declared to him the reſolution of the Parliament, and the ill conſequences which his proceedings might have with regard to himſelf, that he thought proper to return to Weſtminſter, and to comply with all their deſires. The [7] Chancellor, the Treaſurer, and the Keeper of the Privy Seal, were removed from their offices; and by petition of the Lords and Commons, Arundel Biſhop of Ely, John Gilbert Biſhop of Hereford, and John de Waltham, were put in their places. The Chancellor was impeached by the Commons; the grants which he had

[7] Rot. Parl. 10. R. 2.

obtained

obtained of the King were reverſed; and he was adjudged to be impriſoned and ranſomed at the King's pleaſure.

The Parliament having obtained thus much, and being now delivered from the apprehenſions of the French invaſion, which had miſcarried, were reſolved to proceed to a thorough reformation of all the abuſes ſo long complained of in vain. They [6] repreſent to the King, that the profits and revenues of the kingdom, by the inſufficient counſel and ill management of his officers and others about his perſon, have been ſo conſumed, alienated, and miſapplied, that neither his ſtate and houſhold can be honourably ſupported, nor the wars for the defence of the kingdom maintained, without intolerable oppreſſion of the people: they therefore petition, that certain Lords and others, whom they name, may be of his great Council, together with the three great Officers, with powers to view and examine the ſtate of the realm, to remedy all abuſes, and to redreſs all grievances. The King, in compliance with this requeſt, iſſues a Commiſſion under his great ſeal, conſtituting the Archbiſhops of

[6] Rot. Parl. 10. R. 2. Knyghton. Col. 2686. Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 83.

Canterbury and York, the Dukes of York and Gloceſter, the Biſhops of Wincheſter and Exeter, the Abbot of Waltham, the Earl of Arundel, the Lords Cobham, Le Scrope, and Devereux, to be of his great and continual Council for one year, in aid of the good government of the kingdom, for the due execution of the laws, and the relief of the ſtate of the King and his people. They are inveſted with full powers to ſurvey and examine the eſtate and government of his whole kingdom, his courts and houſhold, and the behaviour of all his officers of what degree ſoever; to inquire into the ſtate of his revenues of all ſorts, to examine into all kinds of grants and alienations, of fees and rewards, in his grandfather's time as well as his own; to enter his courts, to cite perſons, and order records to be produced; to hear complaints, and to take informations, as to all theſe and the like matters; and to correct, amend, fully execute, and finally determine, every thing, as it ſhall ſeem beſt to them, for the profit and honour of the King, and the good of his people. Theſe ample powers are granted to any ſix of them, together with the three great Officers of ſtate; and their reſolutions are to be determined by a majority. The commiſſion is confirmed by ſtatute; and it is enacted, that if any one ſhall diſturb the Com-

Commiſſioners in the execution of it, or adviſe the King to make any revocation of their power, the perſon on conviction ſhall forfeit his goods and chattels, for the firſt attempt; and for the ſecond, ſhall be puniſhed as a traitor. Upon this [7] the Lords and Commons, beſide certain ſubſidies already granted, grant a further ſubſidy of half a tenth and half a fifteenth; on condition, that, if the ſubſidies before granted ſhall, by the diligence and good ordinance of the ſaid Commiſſioners, ſuffice for the charges of the next year, then the laſt mentioned ſubſidy ſhall in no wiſe be levied: and alſo, that no other perſons be aſſociated or aſſigned to the Lords Commiſſioners, beſide thoſe that are mentioned in the Commiſſion. Moreover all the grants above mentioned are made on the following condition, that if the power given to the ſaid Lords by the Commiſſion ſhall be in any manner defeated or repelled; or if the ſaid Lords ſhall in any way be diſturbed, ſo that they cannot freely uſe the full power committed to them; then the levy and demand of whatever ſhall remain to be levied by virtue of the ſaid grants ſhall wholly ceaſe; alſo that Letters Patent under the great ſeal ſhall be iſſued, reciting the cauſe, manner, and conditions of all the grants aforeſaid.

[7] Rot. Parl. 10. R. 2.

The King concluded the Parliament with making open proteſtation by his own mouth, that nothing done in it ſhould prejudice him or his Crown, but that the Royal Prerogative ſhould be ſtill ſaved and maintained.

This Commiſſion, which in a manner diveſted the King of his authority, and placed the whole power of the government in the hands of fourteen perſons, was of the ſame kind, and obtained by much the ſame means, with thoſe under Henry the Third and Edward the Second; precedents, both in their nature and their conſequences, of dangerous example. Yet it muſt be allowed, that the Duke of Glocester, who was the author and director of the whole deſign, had filled it with men, for their rank, worth, and capacity, the beſt qualified for ſo great a truſt. William Courtney Archbiſhop of Canterbury, the Biſhop of Wincheſter, and the Lord Richard Le Scrope, were perſons of the greateſt credit, abilities, and experience, and had all of them executed the office of Chancellor with high reputation. The ſame may be ſaid of Thomas de Brantingham Biſhop of Exeter, who had [s] twice borne the office of Treaſurer, once in Edward the Third's time,

[s] Dugdale's Chronica Series.

and

and again in the preſent reign. The Archbiſhop of York was admitted into the number, on account of the dignity of his ſtation, though one of the King's principal favourites: and on the ſame account much more properly the Duke of York, whoſe high quality alone muſt have given him great influence, and whoſe moderation was known univerſally. The Earl of Arundel and his Brother, and the Lord Cobham, the moſt ſtrongly attached to the Duke of Gloceſter, and the moſt deeply engaged in his meaſures, were at the ſame time noblemen of diſtinguiſhed honour, worth, and integrity. As to the Biſhop of Wincheſter in particular, he ſeems to have had a place in the Commiſſion, as one whoſe reputation would give weight to it, without having made any advances himſelf towards the attainment of that honour: this is certain, that he, together with ſeveral others of his collegues, took care to have as little ſhare as poſſible in the exerciſe of thoſe dangerous powers, with which they were inveſted.

The King's deſign in making the proteſtation abovementioned, at the concluſion of the Parliament, was at that time ſufficiently underſtood, and his proceedings ſoon after fully ex-

plained it. The [9] Parliament was no ſooner diſmiſſed, than he releaſed the Earl of Suffolk from his impriſonment, and readmitted him to his preſence, and to all his former favour. And with him and the reſt of his late miniſters he conſulted, how he might free himſelf from the reſtraint laid upon him by the Parliament, and be revenged of his oppoſers. The ſcheme concerted between them was, to procure the ſolemn opinion of all the Judges of the illegality of the Commiſſion and ſtatute lately extorted from the King; to raiſe a ſufficient body of forces to ſupport him in maintaining his Prerogative; and to procure a Parliament, which ſhould be more at his devotion. In order to execute this project, all the Judges and the Sheriffs of the ſeveral counties were ſummoned to attend the King at Nottingham; the Judges were obliged to give their opinion, that the late Commiſſion and ſtatute were null and void, as made againſt the King's will; and that all who were concerned in procuring them, were guilty of treaſon. But it was not ſo eaſy to induce the Sheriffs to engage for raiſing the army, and procuring the Parliament, which the King required: ſo that he returned to London, after having declared his deſigns,

[9] Knyghton, Walſingham.

without

without being able to put them in execution. Upon this the Duke of Gloceſter, with the Earls of Derby, Arundel, Warwick, and Nottingham, raiſed an army of 40,000 men, and marched to London. Without entering the city, they deputed the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, the Duke of York, the Biſhops of Wincheſter and Ely, and four others, all Lords Commiſſioners, to the King, to demand that thoſe evil Counſellors, who had interrupted the Commiſſioners in their proceedings, and had cauſed differences between the King and the Lords of his Council, might be puniſhed as traitors; proteſting, that they meant not to attempt any thing againſt his perſon or honour. Theſe Lords, who choſe to act as mediators between both parties, endeavoured what they could to reconcile the King to the confederate Lords, and to perſuade him to comply with their deſires. The King, unable to reſiſt, and at a loſs for any other expedient, ſeemed to hearken to their advice. They returned therefore to the confederates, to make ſome propoſals for an accommodation. It was at laſt agreed, that the Lords confederate ſhould be admitted to the King's preſence, and in the moſt dutiful manner ſhould lay before him their grievances. The mediating Lords gave them their oaths on the King's behalf, that

they ſhould come and return in ſafety; and for themſelves, that, if they ſhould know of any treacherous deſign formed againſt them, they would warn them of it. The King received them with great ſolemnity on his throne in Weſtminſter hall; he treated them with an appearance of friendſhip, and promiſed them ſatisfaction in the next Parliament, which he then appointed. Theſe fair proceedings of the King were only to amuſe the Lords, while the Duke of Ireland was raiſing an army for him in Wales and Cheſhire. The confederate Lords, when they heard he was coming againſt them, detached a part of their army to meet him, under the command of the Earl of Derby, who intirely defeated him at Radcot-bridge in Oxfordſhire. This blow ſo terrified the King, that he betook himſelf to the Tower of London. After many colluſions with the Lords, he was obliged to give up his favourites, and to meet them in Parliament. In [1] this Parliament, the Lords confederate exhibited an impeachment of treaſon againſt the Duke of Ireland, the Earl of Suffolk, the Archbiſhop of York, Sir Robert Treſilian, and Sir Nicholas Brambre. The three former, having made their eſcape, were attainted and outlawed: the

[1] Rot. Parl. 11. R. 2.

two

two laſt were executed as traitors. The Judges[a], who had given their opinions at Nottingham, were baniſhed: the Biſhop of Chicheſter, who had been concerned in procuring thoſe opinions, was found guilty of treaſon, and attainted. Sir Simon Burley, Sir John Beauchamp, Sir John Saliſbury, Sir James Berners, Thomas Uſk, and John Blake, Eſqrs; were tried, found guilty, and executed; moſt of them charged with crimes not before declared to be treaſon, and the charge hardly ſupported with ſufficient proof. At the concluſion of this Parliament, the King with great ſolemnity renewed his Coronation oath, the temporal Lords did him homage, and the Prelates ſwore fealty to him; both houſes took an oath to maintain the acts of this Parliament, and the ſame oath was impoſed on the people throughout the kingdom. The Biſhops pronounced ſentence of excommunication againſt all that ſhould break this oath, or diſturb the peace of the realm. The whole proceedings of the Lords confederate were approved, confirmed, and pardoned, in

[a] The houſe or Inn of Sir Robert de Belknap, late Chief Juſtice attainted, in the pariſh of St. Mary Mounthaute London, was in the year following granted by the King to William of Wykeham, in conſideration of certain ſums due to him: which grant was confirmed by Henry IV. Index Rot. Parl. 12. R. 2. & 1. H. 4. Bibl. Cotton. Titus, c. 3.

the

the fulleſt manner; and 20,000 l. allowed them for their charges out of the ſubſidies granted. All things ſeemed to be pretty well compoſed: but the King only diſſembled his reſentment, and reſerved himſelf for a more favourable opportunity of vindicating his own authority, and taking vengeance for the loſs of his friends: and the people ſufficiently declared their diſlike of ſuch extraordinary and irregular, as well as ſevere and ſanguinary meaſures, by giving this Parliament the names of the [3] Wonder-working, and [4] the Unmerciful Parliament.

The King was determined to ſhake off the reſtraint, which the Parliament had laid upon him, and aſſert his Royalty, as ſoon as a proper occaſion ſhould offer. He [5] was full one and twenty years of age before the laſt Parliament met; but that was no ſeaſon for him to claim to himſelf any new authority on this account; and as he then found by experience, that he was not able to contend with the party that oppoſed him, he was afraid of ſtirring for ſome time, leſt he ſhould rouſe again the ſame

[3] Hollinſhed. Stow.

[4] Knyghton.

[5] He was born at Bourdeaux Jan. 6. 1366-7. Froiſſart. W. Thorn, Chronica inter X Scriptores.

ſpirit

ſpirit of reſiſtance. The beginning of the next year ſeemed more favourable to his deſigns: every thing was now quiet at home, and a truce was on the point of being concluded both with France and Scotland. The King reſolved therefore to declare himſelf of full age in form, and to make the experiment of exerting his authority in a ſignal manner. He [6] ſummoned a Council at Weſtminſter on the third of May 1389. As ſoon as they were aſſembled, the King entered, and on a ſudden demanded, how old they took him to be: upon their acknowleging, that he was upwards of twenty one, Then, replied he, I am of full age to govern my houſhold and kingdom: for why ſhould my condition be worſe than that of the meaneſt of my ſubjects? The Lords allowing his claim, and ſaying, that he ought not to be abriged of any of his rights; he proceeded to tell them, that hitherto he had been under their tuition and management, and was not at liberty to do any thing without their advice, thanking them for the care they had taken of himſelf and his kingdom; but that now he would take the reins of government into his own hands, and chooſe ſuch officers to ſerve him, as he ſhould think moſt expedient; and that therefore he

[6] Knyghton, Walſingham.

would

would diſcharge all thoſe, who were at preſent in office under him. He then ordered the Chancellor to deliver to him the Great Seal. He diſplaced the Treaſurer, and the Keeper of the Privy Seal, and the Earl of Arundel Admiral, all of whom had been appointed by Parliament. And his uncle the Duke of Gloceſter, with the Earl of Warwick, and ſeveral others of the principal nobility, he removed from the Council-board. The King offered the Great Seal to the Biſhop of Wincheſter. The [7] Biſhop did all he could to excuſe himſelf from accepting it: he neither deſired the office itſelf, nor was pleaſed with the conjuncture and circumſtances, in which it was offered to him; but the King preſſed it upon him in ſuch a manner, that he could not refuſe it; and [8] the next day, Wykeham, much againſt his inclination, was again conſtituted Chancellor of England.

From this circumſtance it appears clearly enough, that the King had not concerted this matter with the Biſhop before-hand; and therefore, that Wykeham had no ſhare in adviſing or approving the bold and hazardous ſtep, which the King had taken. However,

[7] Monachus Eveſhamenſis in vita Richardi II. ab Hearnio editus. T. Walſingham.

[8] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 616.

being

being now at the head of his counſels, he ſeems to have uſed his utmoſt endeavours to correct and ſoften it, and prevent all the ill conſequences, that might be apprehended from it. With this deſign, a proclamation [9] was publiſhed four days afterwards, ſetting forth, that for the more effectually maintaining the tranquillity of the nation, the King had, by the advice and aſſent of his Prelates and Peers, taken into his own hands the full and intire government of the kingdom; and that he hoped and firmly purpoſed, with the aſſiſtance of God and the advice of his Council, to govern his people more to their honour, peace, and proſperity, than they had hitherto been governed. And to prevent the uneaſineſs and apprehenſions, which many concerned in the late diſturbances might otherwiſe lie under, he at the ſame time fully confirmed all the pardons before granted on that account in Parliament. This [1] proclamation was in a few days ſucceeded by another, full of the moſt affectionate expreſſions towards his people, and deſigned as a ſpecimen of the moderation of his future government: it contained a ſuſpenſion of the payment of half the tenth and fifteenth

[9] Ibid. p. 619.
[1] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 620.

granted

granted in the late Parliament held at Cambridge, till the King ſhould ſee a more urgent occaſion for levying it.

The [a] Parliament met at Weſtminſter on Monday the 17th of January, 1389-90, when the Biſhop of Wincheſter, Chancellor of England, by command of the King then preſent in Parliament, declared the cauſe of the ſummons. The ſubſtance of his ſpeech upon this occaſion is recorded in the Parliament Rolls. 'He informs them, that the principal cauſe of 'holding the preſent Parliament is, that the 'King, who had been long of tender age, be-'ing now by the bleſſing of God arrived to 'maturity of years and diſcretion, is ſtill more 'confirmed in that earneſt deſire, and unalter-'able purpoſe, which he hath always enter-'tained, of ruling his ſubjects in peace and 'tranquillity, equity and juſtice; reſolving to 'govern his people and kingdom ſtill better, if 'better may be: and that he wills, that as 'well Holy Church, as the Lords Spiritual and 'Temporal and the Commons, ſhould have 'and enjoy their liberties, franchiſes, and pri-'vileges, in time to come, as they have reaſon-'ably uſed and enjoyed them in the times of

[a] Rot. Parl. 13. R. 2.

'his

'his noble progenitors, the Kings of England.
'He further declares, that the kingdom is ſur-
'rounded with enemies, namely, thoſe of
'France, Spain, and Guienne on the one ſide,
'and of Scotland and Ireland on the other; and
'that it is not certainly known, whether the
'truce, which is concluded between our Lord
'the King and his adverſaries of France and
'Scotland, to continue from the 15th of Au-
'guſt laſt paſt at ſun-riſing, to the 16th of Au-
'guſt that is to be in the year 1392 at ſun-
'riſing, will hold or not: and in caſe it ſhould
'hold, that it will be nevertheleſs neceſſary to
'take proper meaſures for the ſafeguard of the
'borders of Scotland, and of Calais, Breſt, and
'Cherburgh, and alſo for the ſecurity of Ireland
'and Guienne; that embaſſies muſt likewiſe be
'ſent, in order to a treaty of peace, and to
'ſettle the articles of the treaty, and finally to
'conclude it: that the King cannot by any
'means ſupport the expences and charges ne-
'ceſſary for theſe purpoſes, as is well known,
'without the aid of his Lords and Commons;
'that therefore they muſt adviſe and order,
'how and in what manner the ſaid expences
'and charges may be ſupplied and levied, ſo as
'to lay as little burthen as poſſible upon the
'people. He moreover acquaints them, that
'the King deſires to be informed by the Com-
'mons, how the laws of the land and the
ſtatutes

'ſtatutes are kept and executed, and his peace 'maintained in all parts of the realm, and 'whether there be any diſturbers of them: as 'likewiſe of thoſe that move and maintain 'quarrels and vexatious ſuits in the country, 'to the hindrance of the law and oppreſſion of 'the people; and how ſuch evils may be beſt 'redreſſed and amended, and the kingdom 'better governed in time to come; the ſaid 'Commons being obliged of right and before 'God to inform the King, and to employ all 'their care and diligence in the correcting of 'ſuch faults to the utmoſt of their power. He 'further informs them, that the King wills, 'that full right and juſtice be done to the poor 'as well as to the rich; and that, if there be 'any caſe or ſuit that cannot be well redreſſed 'by the common law, the King hath aſſigned 'certain Clerks of his Chancery, to receive the 'petitions, of the complainants, and certain 'Lords to hear and anſwer the ſame petitions, 'the names of which Lords and Clerks will be 'read openly by the Clerk of Parliament; and 'that thoſe, who would preſent ſuch petitions, 'muſt deliver them before the next Monday in 'the evening.'

As ſoon as the neceſſary forms of opening the Parliament were over, the new miniſtry took another meaſure, probably ſuggeſted by the

the Biſhop of Wincheſter, and ariſing from his great prudence and caution; however manifeſtly tending to the ſame deſign, which he had hitherto purſued; namely, to obviate all occaſion of complaint againſt the King's late proceedings, in removing the great Officers and Council appointed by Parliament, and the manner in which they themſelves had been introduced, and to ſhew both the King and his Miniſters in a popular light. The [3] Biſhop of Wincheſter Chancellor, and the Biſhop of St. David's Treaſurer, being the two great Officers of State, (for [4] the Privy Seal ſeems at this time to have been vacant,) with all the Lords of the Council, prayed the King in Parliament to be diſcharged of their offices, in conſideration of the great and continual labours and expences they had undergone therein, and to have others placed in them. At the ſame time the Chancellor gave up to the King the Great Seal, and the Treaſurer the keys of the Exchequer: which the King receiving, diſcharged thoſe

[3] Rot. Parl. 15. R. 2.

[4] I conclude ſo, and that it was in the Chancellor's hands, from the following article in Wykeham's Regiſter. "Memorandum, quod die Mercurii 9no die Martii anno regni Regis Richardi 2^di^ 13mo venerabilis pater Dominus Wilhelmus de Wykeham Epiſcopus Wynton. apud Weſtminſt. reddidit Domino Regi Sigillum ſuum ſecretum, videlicet anulum." Regiſt. Wykeham, part. 3. b. fol. 100.

officers together with the Lords of the Council. As ſoon as they had received their diſcharge, they required openly, that if any perſon would complain of any thing unduly done by them, he ſhould declare it to the King in Parliament. The Commons required time to adviſe of this matter till the next day; at which time they with the Lords, upon demand made by the Duke of Lancaſter by the King's orders, affirmed, that after diligent inquiry they had found all things to have been very well done; and the Commons returned them thanks in full Parliament for their fidelity and good conduct. Whereupon the King reinſtated the Chancellor and Treaſurer in their offices, and reſtored all his late Counſellors, and together with them the Dukes of Lancaſter and Gloceſter, to the Council-board: the former had lately returned from his Spaniſh expedition after three years abſence, and had effected a reconciliation between the Duke of Gloceſter and the King. The King however made proteſtation, that though he had now diſcharged and reinſtated thoſe Officers and Counſellors in Parliament, yet this ſhould not be made a precedent, but that he would be at liberty to appoint and remove them at his pleaſure.

The

The [5] next Parliament was held at Weſtminſter on the 12th of November 1390. The principal buſineſs of it was explained by the Biſhop of Wincheſter, at the opening of it in the uſual form. 'He began with diſcourſing 'to them at large on the important ends and 'happy effects of good government in general, 'and in particular of that of the King during 'the whole courſe of his reign. And having 'informed them, that it was the King's will, 'that Holy Church, and the Lords Spiritual 'and Temporal, as alſo the Cities and Boroughs, ſhould enjoy their liberties and franchiſes in time to come, as they had reaſonably enjoyed them in the times of his noble 'progenitors the Kings of England; he added 'in ſubſtance of matter, that a truce was concluded between the King and his adverſary of 'France for a certain term, as it was openly declared in the laſt Parliament: that the Biſhop 'of Durham, the Earl of Northumberland, 'and others had alſo been lately at Calais with 'a commiſſion from the King for a treaty of 'peace, and had made report to the King of 'the reſult of it: that the King finds it neceſſary to ſend thither about Candlemas next 'a more ſolemn embaſſy to conclude a final

[5] Rot. Parl. 14. R. 2.

'peace, with the bleſſing of God; which he 'cannot do without the advice and aſſent of 'the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and other 'wiſe men of his Council. That likewiſe the 'Biſhop of St. David's, Treaſurer of England, 'the Earl Marſhal, and others, had been 'charged with the King's commiſſion to the 'marches of Scotland, to treat with the Scots 'concerning the truce concluded with the 'French; and that the Scots will not yet 'accede to the ſaid truce. That indeed it 'ſeems more probable, that the King will have 'war, than peace, in that quarter; which war 'the King will by no means enter into, nor 'undertake, without the advice and aſſent of 'his Council: that the ſame or another com-'miſſion muſt be ſent thither about Candlemas 'to treat anew with the Scots. He afterwards 'laid before them the great charges and expen-'ces, which muſt neceſſarily be incurred, as 'well for the ſafe-guard of the borders of 'Scotland, and the country of Ireland, as of 'Calais, Breſt, Cherburgh, and Guienne; and 'likewiſe the treaties before-mentioned: he 'told them, that it was neceſſary to make 'timely preparation for war, in caſe that a 'final peace or longer truce ſhould not be ob-'tained; that the King could by no means 'ſupport the charges and expences neceſſarily

'required

'required for theſe purpoſes, without the aid 'of his ſubjects; wherefore he would be ad-'viſed in this Parliament, how the ſaid charges 'and expences may beſt be borne and ſupplied, 'with the leaſt detriment and burthen of his 'people. He added moreover, that the King 'being willing that full juſtice and right ſhould 'be done to his people, had aſſigned certain 'Clerks of the Chancery to receive the peti-'tions of all thoſe, who would complain in 'this Parliament of any matter, which could 'not be redreſſed by the common law of the 'land, and certain Lords to hear and anſwer 'the ſame petitions in the uſual manner; the 'names of which Lords and Clerks would be 'read openly by the Clerk of Parliament.

The moſt remarkable thing that paſſed in this Parliament was the joint petition of the Prelates, Lords Temporal, and Commons, praying the King in full Parliament, that the Royalty and Prerogative of him and his Crown may be ſaved and maintained; that, if any thing had been done or attempted againſt them, it ſhould be redreſſed and amended: and that he might be as free in his time, as any of his noble progenitors, formerly Kings of England, had been in theirs. Which ſeeming honeſt and reaſonable to the King, it was granted in

all points. The Parliament breaking up on the third of December, the Lords and Commons returned their humble thanks to the King for his good government, and the great zeal he had continually ſhewed for the good of his people: and the King on his part thanked them for the liberal grants they had made to him. Thus every thing ſeemed to be happily compoſed; the extraordinary and violent proceedings of the Parliaments, of the tenth and eleventh years of the King's reign, properly corrected; and the King and his Parliament united in affection, and in a mutual regard for each others reſpective rights, and for their common ſecurity and happineſs.

The Biſhop of Wincheſter had uſed his beſt endeavours, and had thus far happily ſucceeded, in reſtoring the public tranquillity; and had the ſatisfaction of leaving things in this fair and promiſing ſituation, when he quitted the office of Chancellor. On [6] the 27th of September 1391 he delivered the Great Seal to the King at Windſor; from what motives, either on his part or the King's, we are not informed. It is not improbable, that Wykeham, when he was preſſed into the ſervice ſo much

[6] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 707.

againſt

againſt his will, might have engaged the King's promiſe to releaſe him from it, as ſoon as his affairs would allow of his diſmiſſion. Arundel Archbiſhop of York, whom he had ſucceeded in that office, was now made Chancellor again in his place; a man of great abilities and eminent merit, but too ſtrongly attached to the Duke of Gloceſter to be much in favour with the King. Perhaps Wykeham might have been inſtrumental in reconciling the King to him, and reſtoring him to his office, which he himſelf had ſo unwillingly accepted: this however is certain, that the ſame ſcheme of coalition and union, which had been entered upon while Wykeham was at the head of the adminiſtration, was now carried on further, and ſome others, who had been chiefs of the popular party, were readmitted into the King's ſervice. The new miniſters purſued the ſame plan; they were equally ſtudious to promote the people's confidence in the King, and to eſtabliſh his juſt rights: 'for' in the next Parliament, at the inſtance of the Commons, it was again declared, that the King was as free in his royal prerogative, as any of his predeceſſors, notwithſtanding any ſtatute made in derogation thereof, particularly in the time of Edward

[1] Rot. Parl. 15. R. 2.

the Second; and that if any ſtatute had been made in his time, in prejudice of the liberty of the Crown, it was repealed and annulled.

But the King was not ſatisfied with theſe repeated declarations: he thought his power and dignity very precarious, while it depended on the authority of Parliament. He dreaded the popular party, and the effects of oppoſition and reſiſtance, which he had ſo lately experienced; and could not bear the reſtraint, which theſe apprehenſions laid him under. His whole views therefore were from this time directed to one end; to ſet himſelf above all oppoſition and reſiſtance: firſt by making peace and gaining firm alliance abroad, and then by eſtabliſhing an uncontrollable power at home. In conſequence of this deſign, he [a] entered with more earneſtneſs upon a treaty of peace with France, which had been long carried on without effect; the Duke of Lancaſter, though his own affairs required it, did not dare to conclude it upon very diſadvantageous or diſhonourable terms; and the Duke of Gloceſter had oppoſed it with his uſual vehemence. In the mean time the King became a widower; his great and ſincere affliction for the loſs of his Queen did not hin-

[a] Froiſſart, Walſingham.

der

der him from purſuing his point, by making propoſals ſoon after for a marriage with the King of France's daughter, a child of ſeven years old. The match was wholly political, and the King was intent upon it, as the beſt means of ſecuring both the peace, which he deſired, and a powerful ſupport, for which he might have occaſion, againſt his own refractory ſubjects. The Duke of Gloceſter ſaw the conſequences of it, and was determined to oppoſe it with all his power: and in effect he did perſiſt in his oppoſition to this meaſure almoſt to the laſt; till every thing was actually concluded, and he ſaw it was to no purpoſe to hold out any longer. Froiſſart [9] tells a ſtory upon this occaſion, which greatly reflects upon the Duke's honour; and, ſuppoſing it had been poſſible for him to break off the match, no leſs upon his judgement and prudence: he ſays, the King bribed him to conſent to it, or at leaſt to acquieſce in it, by promiſing him 50000 nobles for himſelf, and the Earldom of Rocheſter, with 2000 l. a year, for his ſon; but this, by his own account, was after the whole had been agreed upon, and while the King was at Calais to receive the Queen; and it does not appear, that any part of this promiſe was after-

[9] Vol. 4. chap. 78.

wards

wards performed. However this may be, the marriage, and at the ſame time a truce for thirty years, was concluded.

To ſecure matters at home, the [1] King's firſt ſtep was to ſend the Duke of Lancaſter out of the way again, by granting to him and his heirs the Duchy of Aquitain. But being obliged to revoke this grant, as the ſtates of Aquitain would not conſent to be diſmembered from the Crown of England, he did what he could to bind him to his intereſt, by courting him, and conferring favours on his family. He [2] legitimated the Duke's natural children by Katherine Swinford, whom he had lately married; he got their legitimation confirmed by Parliament, and heaped upon them honours and preferments. But the moſt important point was to procure a Parliament at his devotion: and this the King at laſt effected [3] by appointing, and continuing in their offices, ſuch Sheriffs, as would be ſubſervient to him, and would return thoſe for members, whom he ſhould nominate to them; and by gaining over other members, by favours, bribes, or menaces, to conſent to whatever he ſhould require.

[1] Froiſſart, Walſingham.

[2] Rot. Parl. 20. R. 2. Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 849.

[3] Articles againſt King Richard, N° 18, 19, 20. Rot. Parl. 1. H. 4.

The

The Duke of Gloceſter ſaw what the King was aiming at, and thought it neceſſary to unite more cloſely with his friends, and to conſult with them upon their own and the public ſafety. Arundel, now Archbiſhop of Canterbury, and the Earls of Arundel and Warwick, had ſeveral meetings with him: what particular reſolutions they came to, it is very uncertain, and probably was never known; but their conſulting together was enough to awaken the jealouſy of the King, and his courtiers were not wanting to alarm him with the moſt dreadful apprehenſions. He determined to get rid of the Duke of Gloceſter at any rate. It was difficult to do this, as he was greatly beloved and eſteemed by the people. The main point was privately to ſecure his perſon: the King contrived the plot himſelf, and took the principal ſhare in the execution of it. The [4] Duke was ſurpriſed by an ambuſh laid for him, as he was riding to London with the King: he was hurried away to the Thames, where a veſſel was prepared, which immediately conveyed him to Calais. This was managed with ſuch ſecrecy, that the Earls of Arundel and Warwick, being ſent for by the

[4] Froiſſart, Polydore Virgil.

King,

King, came to Court the next morning without any ſuſpicion, and were arreſted and committed to the Tower.

The Dukes of Lancaſter and York were in the country when this happened. Surpriſed with ſo unexpected an event, they haſtened to London; where, with very little deliberation, they determined on the part they would take in ſo difficult a conjuncture. They had the meanneſs to declare their approbation of what was done, and to concur and aſſiſt in all the King's meaſures, manifeſtly tending to the deſtruction of their brother, and the extinction of the liberties of their country. The [5] Proclamation iſſued a few days after, ſetting forth, that the Duke of Gloceſter and the other Lords were arreſted, not on account of any former riſing in arms, but for various other miſpriſions and extorſions, expreſsly mentions theirs and the Earl of Derby's aſſent. And they all accepted and executed the [6] King's commiſſion, requiring them to raiſe each of them a body of forces, in the whole 1800 men, and to attend the King at the enſuing Parliament, to be holden at Weſtminſter, in arms at the head of them. The King beſides ordered all the

[5] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 8. p. 6. Dated July 15, 1397.
[6] Ibid. p. 13.

Knights

Knights and Gentlemen, who wore his livery of the Hart [7], to be ready in arms at the same time; and was likewise provided with other forces, and a strong guard of Cheshire men, upon whose fidelity he could depend at all events.

The [8] Parliament met on the 17th of September 1397, probably otherwise prepared to act as the King would have them, and besides kept in awe by a powerful army. The first thing they did was to repeal the Commission and statute of the tenth year of the King's reign, as being made traiterously against his will; and to revoke the pardon granted to the confederate Lords in the succeeding Parliament. The Commons then impeached Arundel Archbishop of Canterbury of high treason, in procuring and executing the Commission, and advising the Duke of Gloucester and others to take upon them Royal Power: on which he received sentence of banishment. The King, not daring to bring the Duke of Gloucester to a

[7] See Monach. Evesham. in Vita R^di. 2^di. p. 122. The white Hart lodged under a tree, gorged with a Ducal Coronet, was the Device of the Countess of Kent, afterwards Princess of Wales, the King's mother. See Stebbing's Genealogical History, p. 218.

[8] Rot. Parl. 21. R. 2.

public

public trial, had ordered him to be [9] privately murdered at Calais. He was now impeached, together with the Earls of Arundel and Warwick, for procuring and executing the Commiſſion, and taking arms; was adjudged guilty of high treaſon, and attainted. The Earl of Arundel was beheaded, and the Earl of Warwick baniſhed. The Lord Cobham was found guilty of high treaſon, on the ſole charge of procuring and executing the Commiſſion, and was baniſhed. The King ſatisfied with theſe proceedings, at the interceſſion of the Commons excuſeth others of the Commiſſioners, the Duke of York, the Biſhop of Wincheſter, and the Lord Le Scrope, then living; the Archbiſhops of Canterbury and York, the Biſhop of Exeter, and the Abbot of Waltham, deceaſed; and declares them innocent of the execution and intent of the Commiſſion. Which declaration, pronounced by the King himſelf from the Throne in Parliament, with the advice and conſent of the Lords, and by petition of the Commons, hath the force of ſtatute.

Though the Biſhop of Wincheſter eſcapes, to all appearance, ſo freely on this occaſion, yet it is probable, that the King, taking advan-

[9] Articles againſt King Richard, N° 32. Rot. Parl. 1. H. 4. Item Placita Coronæ. Rot. Parl. 1. H. 4.

tage

tage of his preſent circumſtances, extorted from him a loan of 1000 l. This [1] ſum was demanded of him between the time of the ſeizing of the Lords and the meeting of Parliament, when the King got large ſums from his ſubjects in this way of loan. In ſuch a conjuncture it was not ſafe for any one to refuſe: the Biſhop of Wincheſter was rich, and had been in the Commiſſion, and ſo was ſubject to a much larger demand than any one beſides.

The King having proceeded thus far with ſucceſs, adjourned the Parliament to the 28th of January, to meet at Shrewſbury, as a more proper place for completing his deſign. The Biſhop of Wincheſter, probably not caring to ſee what he could not prevent, ſent [2] thither his procurators to excuſe his abſence, on account of his ill health and infirmities, and to act for him. Here the King, as he imagined, eſtabliſhed his power on as firm a foundation, and in as full extent, as he could wiſh. He had gained the moſt conſiderable Lords intirely to his devotion, by conferring new honours upon them, and ſharing among them the con-

[1] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 8. p. 9. Dated Aug. 10, 1397.

[2] Regiſt. Wykeham, part. 3. b. fol. 153. "Quia nos corporali moleſtia & infirmitate ad præſens præpediti, &c." Dated High-Clere, Jan. 20th, 1397-8.

fiſcated

ſiſcated eſtates of the attainted Lords. The Parliament gave ſanction of law to all his proceedings, and to whatever he required of them. The anſwers of the Judges at Nottingham were confirmed, as good and lawful; all the acts of the Parliament of the eleventh year of the King were repealed and annulled; and a ſubſidy was granted to him for his life. At length the whole power of Parliament was by ſtatute devolved upon the King, twelve Lords, and ſix of the Commons; or any ſix of the former, and any three of the latter. The King granted a general pardon; but with proteſtation, that if the Lords and Commons in Parliament ſhould at any time impugn the grant of the ſubſidy for his life, then the ſaid pardon ſhould be null and void.

There remained only one difficulty; which was, to give ſtability and a laſting ſanction to every thing thus ſettled ſo much to the King's ſatisfaction. For this purpoſe the Prelates, Lords, and Commons, were ſworn three ſeveral times during the courſe of this Parliament, twice at the ſhrine of St. Edward, and once at Shrewſbury, to hold and maintain all the ordinances made in it. An oath [3] was deviſed

[3] See Appendix, N° XIV. This and the following Record I have inſerted in the Appendix, as they eſtabliſh facts of ſome importance, which have eſcaped the notice of our hiſtorians.

to

to the ſame intent, which the King forced all his ſubjects to take: they were required to ſwear and engage, not only for themſelves, but for their heirs and ſucceſſors alſo. The Biſhops were obliged to pronounce ſentence of excommunication againſt all, that ſhould act or adviſe any thing contrary to them. The King moreover had them confirmed by a Bulle obtained from the Pope. His Holineſs did not grant this favour without a proper return: the [4] King on his part granted a ſuſpenſion, a moderation, as he called it, of the ſtatute againſt proviſions, made a few years before greatly to the ſatisfaction of the nation. The [5] Parliament had ſometimes before intruſted the King with a power, limited to a certain time, of diſpenſing with this ſtatute, by advice of his Council: the King now took upon him to diſpenſe with law by his own authority. All theſe precautions ſerved only to alarm the people, to awaken them to a ſenſe of the loſs of their liberties, and to haſten the revolution, which was ſo eaſily brought about the year following; when Richard the Second was depoſed, and Henry of Bolingbroke Duke of Lancaſter placed on the throne.

[4] See Appendix, N° XV.

[5] See Cotton's Abrigement of the Parliament Rolls; Index, in the word *Proviſors*.

It does not appear, that the Biſhop of Winchester had any ſhare on either ſide in this extraordinary and important tranſaction; further than by his preſence [6] in the laſt Parliament of Richard the Second, held on September the 30th, 1399, when that unhappy Prince reſigned the Crown, and was ſolemnly depoſed. The firſt Parliament of Henry the Fourth was ſummoned a few days after; at [7] which alſo the Biſhop aſſiſted. On [8] the 23d of October a ſolemn Council of the Lords in Parliament was held by the King's command; and the queſtion propoſed by the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, with a ſtrict injunction of ſecrecy; what was to be done with the late King Richard, ſo that he might be ſafely guarded, and his life preſerved? They were ſeverally aſked their opinions; and they adviſed, that he ſhould be kept under ſafe and ſecret guard in ſome retired place. In purſuance of which advice, October the 27th, the King being preſent in Parliament, Richard was adjudged to perpetual im-

[6] As appears by the Regiſter: he was at Southwark from this time till the end of November; nor is there any procuration entered.

[7] Rot. Parl. 1. H. 4. He was appointed (as uſual) one of the Triers of Petitions of England, Ireland, Wales, and Scotland.

[8] Rot. Part. 1. H. 4. tit. 74, 76.

priſonment.

priſonment. The names of all the Lords, that gave this advice, are expreſſed in the Record: there were fifteen Biſhops, ſeven Abbots, and thirty ſix Temporal Lords; the Biſhop of Wincheſter was not of the number, though at this time reſident at his palace in Southwark. His known attachment to the late King, his perſonal regard for him as his benefactor in many inſtances, and his veneration for the memory of his father and grandfather his great patrons, would have made his preſence, on this delicate occaſion, as improper and diſagreeable with reſpect to himſelf, as it might have been unwelcome and offenſive to others. This was the laſt Parliament which he attended in perſon: he [9] ever after ſent procurators to excuſe his abſence on account of his age and infirmities.

Soon after the diſmiſſion of the Parliament, the Scots, taking advantage of the unſettled ſtate of the Nation, began hoſtilities, and infeſted the borders. The deſigns of France were likewiſe ſuſpected. The King found it neceſſary to undertake an expedition to Scotland in perſon, but was unprovided with money, and was unwilling to call a Parliament again ſo ſoon to furniſh him with ſupplies.

[9] Regiſt. Wykeham, part. 3. b. fol. 185, 204, 215.

He therefore ſummoned a [1] Great Council of Lords and Prelates; who, in conſideration of the preſſing neceſſity of the nation at this juncture, granted the King an aid of themſelves: the Prelates gave a tenth, and the Lords engaged each of them to raiſe and maintain a certain number of forces. This was to ſet an example to the reſt of the Lords, who were not there preſent, and to the whole nation: letters under the Privy Seal were ſent to all the Abbies to demand a haſty ſupply; and [2] afterward to all the Clergy, who complied with the demand, and granted a ſubſidy likewiſe of a tenth. This extraordinary Council was held on February the 9th following. The Biſhop of Wincheſter was ſummoned to it, and aſſiſted at it. Theſe are the laſt traces that remain of his appearing and acting in public affairs.

[1] Rym. Fœd. Vol. 7. p. 125.

[2] Chron. S. Alban. ad an. quoted by Wake, State of the Church, p. 338.

THE

THE LIFE OF WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM.

SECTION VIII.

From the beginning of Henry the Fourth's Reign to the Death of Wykeham.

WYKEHAM was now very far advanced in years, and had from his youth been conſtantly engaged in a multiplicity of buſineſs of the greateſt importance, both public and private, which he had attended with infinite aſſiduity and application; it is not to be wondered, that old age and continued labour in conjunction, ſhould bring upon him thoſe infirmities, which are the uſual conſequences of each of them ſeparate; and that he ſhould be

obliged at laſt to have recourſe to eaſe and retirement. He had been bleſt with an excellent conſtitution, and had enjoyed an uncommon ſhare of health. He had now been Biſhop of Wincheſter above thirty years, and in all that time had never been interrupted by illneſs in the attendance upon his duty in every capacity, except once. He was ſomewhat out of order at Merewell about the middle of February, 1392-3; [1] as I find by a procuration which he ſent to the Convocation, excuſing his abſence on that account. However his diſorder, whatever it was, ſeems not to have been ſuch as to hinder his attendance on common buſineſs at that time; and within a fortnight [2] he was able to remove to Farnham, and to celebrate an Ordination there. I have already intimated, that the illneſs, which prevented his attending the Parliament at Shrewſbury, might perhaps be partly political: before this time, as ſoon as the Adjournment thither was made, he had ſent [3] the like excuſe to the Convocation,

[1] "Quia nos corporali moleſtia & aliis præpediti negotiis," &c. Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 112. "Et in medicin. "præparat. apud Oxon. pro Domino Fundatore per literam "ejuſdem Domini miſſ.° ad Cuſtod. in feſto Purific. Beatæ "Mariæ, 12s. 10d. ½." Rot. Comp. Coll. Nov. an. 1393.

[2] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 2. in Ordinat. March 1, 1392.

[3] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 151. "Quia nos corpo-"rali moleſtia & aliis præpediti negotiis," &c. Dated Eſher, October 4th, 1397.

which

which was to meet on the eighth of October; and joined to this excuſe the plea of much buſineſs of other kinds. This plea itſelf ſuppoſes, that his illneſs was not very ſevere; and we find accordingly [4], that at this time he was well enough to remove from Southwark to Eſher and Farnham, as he had occaſion. About the beginning of November he retired to High-Clere, and continued there near four months; where he was ſtill able to tranſact buſineſs of all ſorts, and among the reſt to go through the [5] ceremony of delivering the Pall to Roger Walden, the new Archbiſhop of Canterbury. During the two firſt years of Henry the Fourth [6], I find him from time to time removing from one to another of his Palaces in the country, as he uſed to do. The firſt remarkable indication of his weakneſs and inability of body appears in the month of May 1401, when [7] he was not able to undergo the fatigue of adminiſtring Ordination; but, though preſent himſelf, he procured another Biſhop to ordain for him: and he was ever after obliged

[4] Regiſt. Wykeham.

[5] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 154. Feb. 17, 1397.

[6] Regiſt. Wykeham.

[7] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 2. in Ordinat. The perſon, who from this time generally performed this office for him, was the famous Thomas Merks, the deprived Biſhop of Carliſle.

to continue the ſame method of ſupplying that part of his office. At the end of this year [8] he retired to Southwaltham; nor did he ever remove from thence; except once or twice, on occaſion of ſome particular buſineſs, and that no further than to Wincheſter.

The Biſhop, with his uſual precaution and care, had duly weighed and prepared for this contingency. To ſecure to himſelf his own freedom of action, and to prevent all diſagreeable interpoſitions of authority; which, however proper and neceſſary in ſuch caſes, might perhaps be attended with much inconvenience, and tend to aggravate rather than relieve the infirmities of age; he had above ten years before procured a Bulle from the Pope, [9] giving him leave and authority, in conſideration of his age and ill health, to aſſume to himſelf one or more Coadjutors, without the advice and conſent of the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, or of the Chapter of Wincheſter; and, as often as it ſhould pleaſe him, to remove them, and in the place of the removed to depute another or others, as he ſhould think proper. The Biſhop did not find himſelf under a neceſſity of making

[8] Regiſt. Wykeham.

[9] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 206. The Bulle is dated July 22, 1391.

uſe

uſe of this faculty before the two laſt years of his life. On the fourth of January, 1402-3, [1] he produced the Pope's Bulle, and having ordered it to be read and publiſhed, he in virtue of it then deputed in proper form Dr. Nicholas Wykeham and Dr. John Elmer to be his Coadjutors: and from that time forward all buſineſs proceeded with their expreſs conſent, and by their authority.

Being thus relieved, in a great meaſure, from the conſtant perſonal attendance on the duties of his charge, he devoted his whole time and application to the diſpoſal of his temporal goods, and to the care of his ſpiritual concerns. He finiſhed and ſigned his [2] Will on the 4th of July, 1403. The largeneſs and multiplicity of his legacies, and the great exactneſs with which every thing relating to them is ordered, muſt have required much attention, and evidently ſhews in what ſtrength and perfection he ſtill enjoyed all the faculties of his mind. That extenſive and almoſt boundleſs generoſity, which peculiarly diſtinguiſhed his whole life, is here fully diſplayed: it comprehends all orders and degrees of men from the

[1] Ibid.

[2] See Appendix, N° XVII.

higheſt

higheſt to the loweſt, and anſwers every poſſible demand of piety, gratitude, affection, and charity. He ſtill maintained the ſame principle, upon which he had always acted, and which is perhaps the moſt certain and indubitable teſt of true liberality: as he had always made it a rule to himſelf, never to defer a generous and munificent action to another day, when he had the preſent ability and the immediate opportunity of performing it; ſo now he was no ſooner come to a final determination with regard to the diſpoſal of his riches, than he began himſelf to fulfil his own intentions; and in a great many inſtances, in which his preſent liberality would enhance the benefit which he deſigned to confer, he diſtributed his Legacies with his own hands, and became the executor of his own will. This made it neceſſary for him ſome time afterwards to add a Codicil to it; by which he declares theſe articles fully diſcharged, and acquits his executors of all demands on account of them and all others, in which he ſhould for the future in like manner anticipate their office.

It was a matter of principal concern with all pious perſons, and made no ſmall part of the religion of that age, to offer up their prayers for the dead, and to ſecure for their own ſouls, after

after their departure, the benefit of the interceſſions of poſterity. This perſuaſion owed its origin to certain cuſtoms, that prevailed in the early ages of the Church; innocent perhaps and blameleſs in themſelves, but miſtaken at length, and perverted from their firſt intention to much ſuperſtition both in opinion and practice. Prayers for the dead ſeem at firſt to have been uſed only at their funerals. For the greater ſolemnity, they often choſe to join the ſervice of the interment of the dead to the celebration of the Euchariſt; and hence perhaps aroſe the cuſtom of adding alms and oblations to the ſervice for the dead, though not joined with the Euchariſt. In time it became the practice to repeat theſe ſervices annually: anniverſary days were kept for private perſons by their own friends and relations; for Martyrs more publicly, and with greater ceremony; firſt at their ſepulchres, afterward in the Churches, which it became the cuſtom to build over their ſepulchres, and even to dedicate to the ſaints there depoſited. All this by degrees crept into the public ſervice of the Church: annual oblations and ſacrifices of commemoration, as they were called, were made for them: at the celebration of the Euchariſt, the names of Martyrs, Confeſſors, and Biſhops departed in the faith, were publicly

licly recited; and a ſolemn commemoration was made of the dead in general, with prayers, ſome by way of thankſgiving to God for their deliverance out of the troubles of this world, others by way of interceſſion, that he would receive them to reſt, and pardon their failings and infirmities. The people began to conclude, that ſuch ſervices were not merely intended for a memorial of the deceaſed, and for their own edification, but were in ſome way profitable to thoſe, in whoſe behalf they ſeemed to be made. Theſe oblations and ſacrifices, though called commemorative, were eaſily miſtaken for propitiatory; and the dead were ſuppoſed to obtain pardon of their ſins through the interceſſion of the living. At laſt, to account fully for a practice either ill founded or miſunderſtood, the doctrine of Purgatory was invented, or rather borrowed from the heathen. For it happens in Theology, as well as in Natural Philoſophy, that to give ſupport and conſiſtency to our own vain imaginations, with regard to ſome obſcure and miſtaken queſtion, we are apt to have recourſe to ſome new Hypotheſis equally imaginary and vain.

Wykeham by diſpoſition, by education, by principle, and by habit, had a deep tincture of piety and devotion. He was perſuaded of the truth

truth of all parts of the religion, in which he had been inſtructed in his childhood; but he ſeems to have been particularly poſſeſſed with the notion of the reaſonableneſs and efficacy of prayers for the dead. It [3] is recorded of him, that he always performed this part of the public ſervice of the Church with peculiar intenſeneſs and fervour, even to the abundant effuſion of tears. It is not to be wondered, therefore, if we find him more eſpecially careful in procuring the interceſſion of the faithful in behalf of himſelf, his parents, and benefactors. Beſide the proviſions, which he made for this purpoſe in both his Colleges by his ſtatutes, he [4] had long before founded a Chantry of five [5] Prieſts, to pray for the ſouls of his father and mother

[3] "Et nedum ſat, ſicut præmittitur, ſed & ſemet ipſum Deo "vivum ſacrificium optulit, ubi inter miſſarum ſolempnia, præ- "ſertim ea parte miſſæ qua pro vivis & mortuis ſpecialiter agi- "tur memoria, lacrimas habundantius effundebat, ex cordis "humilitate reputans ſe indignum, ut frequentius ſuis ſecretariis "jam expreſſit, quod tantum perageret officium, & tam dignum "tractaret eccleſiæ ſacramentum." MS. Coll. Wint.

[4] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 57, 76, & 132. It appears from fol. 57, that this Chantry was founded before Auguſt 22, 1383. But it is probable, from his granting ſome eſtates to the Priory of Suthwyk in the 43d year of Edward the Third, that he eſtabliſhed it as ſoon as he was made Biſhop of Wincheſter. Index Rot. Pat. Bibl. Cotton. Titus, C. 2. Tanner. Notit. Monaſt. p. 162.

[5] MS. Coll. Wint.

only,

only, in the Priory of Suthwyk. He [6] likewiſe paid to the Chapter of Windſor two hundred pounds for the purchaſe of twenty marks a year, to make a perpetual endowment for one additional Chaplain; on condition that his obit ſhould be annually celebrated, and his ſoul, and the ſouls of Edward the Third, of his own parents, and of his benefactors, be daily recommended in their prayers. But he thought it alſo more particularly expedient to eſtabliſh a conſtant ſervice of this kind in his own Church, in that part of it, which he had rebuilt, and where he had choſen the place of his burial. Accordingly he had deſigned from the firſt, and had now finiſhed, in that part, a Chapel, or Oratory, which was to be his ſepulchre and his chantry. The ſituation of this Chapel ſeems not at all well choſen, if we conſider it with reſpect to the whole building; in which it has no good effect, but creates an irregularity and an embarraſſment, which it had been better to have avoided. But Wykeham was determined to the choice of this particular place, by a conſideration of a very different kind; by an early prejudice, and a ſtrong religious impreſſion, which had been

[6] Ex Originali Indentura in Archivis Eccleſiæ Windſor. Dat. May 29, 1402.

ſtamped

ſtamped on his mind in his childhood. In [7] this part of the old Church there had been an altar dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin, with her image ſtanding above it: at this altar a maſs uſed to be celebrated every morning, which ſeems to have been a favourite one, and much

[7] "Erat enim Wilhelmus, pater venerabilis antedictus, a "primevo litterarum ſtudio Wynton. traditus deo non modicum, "& Eccleſiæ ſacroſanctæ devotus, nec non baſilicæ majoris "Wynton. in qua ut ſperatur miſeratione divina poſtmodum "præfuit, ubi jam humatus corpore requieſcit, limina frequen- "tans devote, & coram Beatæ Virginis Mariæ ymagine, ſtante "in capella in qua traditus eſt eccleſiaſticæ ſepulturæ, ſuas ſpe- "ciales fundens orationes cotidie, miſſam matutinalem cujuſdam "monachi, Pekiſmaſſe tunc dictam vulgariter, indies conſuevit "audire; & ſic in pueritia a ſe pigritudine [*lege, pigritudinis*] "ſompnum excutiens, ſecundum beati Petri Apoſtoli doctrinam, "incepit in orationibus vigilare." MS. Coll. Wint.

"Non eſt igitur poſtponendum, quod in hac ætate frequentare "eccleſiam dulce habuit, crebrius orationi incumbere, ſacris "miſſarum intereſſe ſolempniis. Verum & ſpecialem devotionem "habuit ad beatam Dei Genetricem, ob cujus honorem ſæpius "viſitavit eccleſiam Sancti Swythuni, coram ymagine ejuſdem "tunc poſita in quadam columpna ejuſdem eccleſiæ genibus "flexis eam humiliter deprecans, ut ſuis precibus ad talem ſta- "tum mereretur aſſumi, ut non ſolum ipſam, ſed filium ejus "Jeſum Chriſtum in Eccleſia militante dignius honoraret." Tractatus in Vet. Regiſt. Coll. Wint.

"Cujus corpus jacet tumulatum in oratorio Beatæ Mariæ "Virginis in navi Eccleſiæ Cathedralis Wynton. quod ipſe "ſuperſtes in honorem ejuſdem Virginis fieri ordinavit. In quo "ad minus tres miſſæ ſpeciales pro anima ejuſdem patris, pa- "rentum, & benefactorum ſuorum, ac omnium fidelium de- "functorum, cotidie celebrantur." Ibid.

frequented,

frequented, at the time when Wykeham was a boy, and at ſchool at Wincheſter; for it had gotten a particular name among the people, and was called Pekiſmaſſe, from the name of a Monk of the Convent, who uſually officiated in it. Young Wykeham was conſtant in his daily attendance, and fervent in his devotions, at this Maſs. He ſeems even then to have choſen the Bleſſed Virgin as his peculiar patroneſs, to have placed himſelf under her protection, and in a manner to have dedicated himſelf to her ſervice: and probably he might ever after imagine himſelf indebted to her eſpecial favour for the various ſucceſſes, which he was bleſſed with through his life. This ſeems to have been the reaſon of his dedicating to her his two Colleges, and calling them by her name; over all the principal gates of which he has been careful to have himſelf repreſented as her votary, in the act of adoration to the Bleſſed Virgin, as his and their common guardian. And this it was that determined the ſituation of his chantry. He erected his Chapel in the very place, where he had been uſed to perform his daily devotions in his younger days; between the two pillars, againſt one of which ſtood the altar above mentioned. He dedicated the Chapel to the Bleſſed Virgin; the altar was continued in the ſame place as before, and probably

probably the very ſame image was erected above it: which, with the other ornaments of the ſame kind, both within the Chapel and without, was deſtroyed in the laſt century, by the zeal of modern enthuſiaſm, exerting itſelf with a blind and indiſcreet rage againſt all the venerable and beautiful monuments, whether of antient piety or ſuperſtition.

The Biſhop [8] ordered his body to be depoſited in the middle of this Chapel; and a little before his death, he himſelf, by agreement with the Prior and Convent, directed the ſervices, which were to be perpetually performed in it, in the following [9] manner.

The Prior and Convent, in conſideration of a benefaction made to them by the Biſhop of about the yearly value of twenty marks; and likewiſe in conſideration of his having at a great expence, in a moſt decent and handſome manner, rebuilt from the foundations his and their Cathedral Church of Wincheſter, and given to it a great number of veſtments and other ornáments; as alſo in gratitude for many other favours and benefits moſt generouſly conferred upon them by him; being deſirous, to

[8] See Appendix, N° XVII.
[9] Ibid. N° XVI.

the utmoſt of their ability, to compenſate with ſpiritual goods the many benefits both temporal and ſpiritual received from him, engage for themſelves and their ſucceſſors to perform for ever the following ſervices for the health of his ſoul, and of the ſouls of his parents and benefactors. In the firſt place, in the Chapel in the nave of the Church, where the Biſhop has choſen to be buried, three maſſes ſhall be celebrated daily, for him and his benefactors particularly, by the Monks of the Convent: [1] the firſt maſs *De Sancta Maria*, early in the morning throughout the year; the two other maſſes, later in the morning, at tierce or at ſixth hour, either *De Sanctis*, or *De temporali*, as the devotion of the perſons officiating ſhall incline them: in each of which maſſes the collect *Rege quæſumus* ſhall be ſaid during the Biſhop's life for his good eſtate, and the prayer *Deus cui proprium*, for the ſouls of his parents and benefactors. After the Biſhop's deceaſe, inſtead of the collect *Rege quæſumus*, ſhall be ſaid the prayer, *Deus qui inter Apoſtolicos*, for the Biſhop, and for him only. The Prior is to pay to each of theſe Monks every day one penny. The Sacriſt is to provide for them bread, wine, book, chalice, veſtments, candles for the altar,

[1] See the Roman Miſſal, Breviary, Hours, &c.

palls,

palls, and all other neceſſaries and ornaments. They moreover engage, that the charity boys of the Priory ſhall every night for ever ſing at the ſaid Chapel in honour of the Bleſſed Virgin Mary the anthem *Salve Regina*, or *Ave Regina*, and after it ſay the Pſalm *De profundis*, with the prayer *Fidelium*, or *Inclina*, for the ſouls of the father and mother of the Biſhop, and for his ſoul after his deceaſe, and for the ſouls of all the faithful deceaſed: for which the Prior is to pay to the Almoner yearly on the feaſt of the Annunciation of the Bleſſed Virgin ſix ſhillings and eight pence for the uſe of the ſaid boys. It is further ordered, that the Monks of the Convent in Prieſts orders ſhall be appointed weekly to the performance of theſe ſervices in a table by courſe; and that, if any one ſo appointed ſhall by ſudden infirmity or otherwiſe be hindred from officiating, he ſhall give notice to the Prior or his ſubſtitute, who ſhall nominate another to ſupply his place. This engagement of the Prior and Convent is dated the 16th of Auguſt, 1404.

Thus Wykeham, having finally ſettled all his temporal and ſpiritual concerns, and being about this time full eighty years of age, with much piety and reſignation waited the hour of his diſſolution. He ſeems to have ſunk by a

gentle and gradual decay. Though weak in body, he retained all the faculties of his mind to the laſt. Even [2] ſince he had taken his Coadjutors to his aſſiſtance, he had ſtill perſonally attended and directed his affairs both public and private, as he uſed to do before; admitting all perſons, that had buſineſs to tranſact with him, to his upper chamber. This practice he was able to continue at leaſt till within four days of his death. He died at South Waltham, on [3] Saturday the 27th day of September, about eight o'clock in the morning, in the year 1404.

He was buried, according to his directions, in his own Oratory, in the Cathedral Church of Wincheſter. His funeral was attended by a great concourſe of people of all ſorts; many, as we may well ſuppoſe, being drawn thither by their affection to him, and regard for his memory; and great numbers, as we may be fully aſſured, of the poorer ſort coming to partake of the alms ſtill reached out to them by the ſame munificent hand, that had ſo long been continually open to relieve their wants. For [4] he had ordered by his will, that in whatever place

[2] Regiſt. Wykeham.

[3] Tractat. & Titulus Teſtamenti, in Vet. Regiſt. Coll. Winc.

[4] See Appendix, N° XVII.

he

he ſhould happen to die, and through whatever places his body ſhould be carried, between the place of his death and the Cathedral Church of Wincheſter, in all theſe places to every poor tenant, that had held of him there as Biſhop of Wincheſter, ſhould be given, to pray for his ſoul, four pence; and to every other poor perſon aſking alms, two pence, or one penny at leaſt, according to the diſcretion of his executors: and that on the day of his burial, to every poor perſon coming to Wincheſter, and aſking alms for the love of God and for the health of his ſoul, ſhould be given four pence.

I ſhall here proceed to give a ſummary account of the other legacies, benefactions, and charities, bequeathed by him in his Will[s].

To the poor in the priſons of Newgate London, the Mareſhalſy, Wolveſy, Wincheſter, Oxford, Berkſhire, Guilford, Old and New Sarum, he ordered to be diſtributed the ſum of two hundred pounds. This was one of thoſe charitable bequeſts, which he anticipated in his lifetime. He likewiſe lived to ſee his building of the Church of Wincheſter in a manner finiſhed, for which he had alſo made proviſion by his Will.

[s] See Appendix, Ibid.

To the King he bequeaths a pair of ſilver baſons gilt, and remits to him a debt [6] of five hundred pounds.

To the Archbiſhop of Canterbury (Thomas Arundel,) and to his ſucceſſor in the Biſhoprick of Wincheſter, ſeveral legacies in jewels, plate, and books. To the Biſhop of London (Robert Braybroke,) his large ſilk bed and furniture in the beſt chamber of his palace at Wincheſter, with the whole ſuit of tapeſtry hangings in the ſame apartment.

To the Church of Wincheſter, his new rich veſtment of blue cloth, embroidered with gold, with thirty copes of the ſame with gold fringes; a pyx of beril for the hoſtie; and a croſs of gold with reliques of the true croſs.

To the Prior of Wincheſter, plate to the value of twenty pounds; and to every Monk of

[6] The Biſhop of Wincheſter lent the King 400 l. on the 1ſt of July 1402. The money was to be paid on Chriſtmas day following; and for the Biſhop's ſecurity the King put into his hands certain jewels, giving him leave to ſell them, and pay himſelf, if the money ſhould not be paid at the time agreed on. Rym. Fœd. Vol. 8. p. 267. The executors of William of Wykeham late Biſhop of Wincheſter petition the Council for payment of debts due from the King to the ſaid Biſhop: viz. 350 l. over and above 500 l. remitted to the King by his will, and 1000 l. the debt of Richard the Second due by letters patent. MS. Rym. Hen. 4th, Vol. 2d, N° 166.

the

To face page 262.

3 feet.

Baculus Pastoralis Willmi de Wykeham Epi Wintoniensis Thesaurio Coll Nov. Oxon. asservatus: ex argento deaurato et pictura [illegible]

the Convent [7], being Prieſts, five marks; and to every one of them in lower orders, forty ſhillings, to pray for his ſoul.

To his College in Oxford, his Mitre, Croſier [8], Dalmatics, and Sandals.

To his College at Wincheſter, another Mitre, the Bible [9] which he commonly uſed, and ſeveral other books.

To each of the Wardens of his Colleges, ten marks; and plate to the value of twenty marks; the latter to be tranſmitted to their ſucceſſors.

To every Fellow, Chaplain, and Scholar, of his College in Oxford, from twenty ſix ſhillings and eight pence, to thirteen ſhillings and four pence, according to their orders and degrees; and ten pounds to be divided between the Clerks, Choriſters, and Servants.

To the Schoolmaſter of Wincheſter College, five pounds; to each of the Fellows, twenty-ſix ſhillings and eight pence; to the Uſher, and each of the Chaplains, twenty ſhillings; to each of the Scholars, ſix ſhillings and eight

[7] The Convent conſiſted of a Prior and forty-two Monks. Leger-book of the Church of Wint. N° 1. fol. 20.

[8] See the Plate annexed.

[9] "Biblia cum clapſulis de argento deaurat. ex legato Do-"mini Fundatoris. *Pret.* VIII. marc." Vet. Regiſt. Coll. Wint.

pence; and ten marks to be divided between the Clerks, Choriſters, and Servants.

To the fabric of the Church of Sarum, twenty pounds, for the celebration of his exequies on the day of his obit, and on the thirtieth day after his death, by the Canons and Miniſters of the ſaid Church.

To the Abbot of Hyde, a piece of gilt plate, value ten pounds; to every one of the Monks of the ſame Monaſtery, being Prieſts, forty ſhillings; and to every one of them in lower orders, twenty ſhillings, to pray for his ſoul.

To the Abbeſs of the Monaſtery of St. Mary Winton, five marks; and to every one of the Nuns [1], thirteen ſhillings and four pence.

To the Prior and Convent of St. Mary Overy Suthwerk, for the repair of their Church, and to pray for his ſoul, forty pounds, being a debt remitted.

To the Abbot and Convent of Waverly, ten pounds, to pray for his ſoul.

To the Abby of Tichefield, one pair of veſtments, and a chalice.

To the Prior and Convent of Tanton, one hundred marks, to pray for his ſoul.

[1] There were xxi Nuns at the diſſolution. Tanner. Notit. Monaſt.

To

To the Abbeſs of the Monaſtery of Nuns at Romeſey, five marks: to Felicia Aas, a Nun of the ſame Monaſtery, five pounds: and to each of the other Nuns, thirteen ſhillings and four pence.

To the Abbeſs and Convent of the ſame Monaſtery, for the repair of their Church and Cloyſter, a debt of forty pounds remitted.

To the fabric of the pariſh Church of Romeſey, twenty marks.

To the Abbeſs and Convent of Wherewell, to pray for his ſoul, twenty marks.

To the Prior and Convent of St. Denis Southampton, for the repair of their Church, twenty marks.

To the Prioreſs and Convent of Wynteney, to pray for his ſoul, ten pounds.

To the Priory and Convent of Taurigge, to pray for his ſoul, five pounds.

To be diſtributed among the brethren, and ſiſters, and poor, of the Hoſpital of St. Thomas Suthwerk, to pray for his ſoul, ten marks.

To the Hoſpital of St. Croſs near Wincheſter, one pair of veſtments, with a chalice, and one pair of ſilver baſons.

To the Hoſpital of St. Nicholas at Porteſmouth, one pair of veſtments, with a chalice.

To the Church of St. Mary Southampton, one pair of veſtments, with a chalice.

To

To the College of St. Elizabeth, (Winton) a pair of ſilver baſons, and two ſilver cups, for the uſe of the high altar.

To the Hoſpital of St. Mary Magdalene near Wincheſter, for the repair of the Church and houſes belonging to it, five pounds.

To the Siſters of the Hoſpital of the Almonry of the Church of St. Swythun, forty ſhillings, to be equally divided between them, to pray for his ſoul.

To each of the Churches of Hameldon and Eaſtmeone, one ſervice-book with notes, of thoſe belonging to his own Chapel, and one chalice.

To each of five Churches of his patronage, one intire veſtment, namely for prieſt, deacon, and ſubdeacon, with a cope, and one chalice.

To each of five others likewiſe, one cope of thoſe belonging to his Chapel, and one chalice.

To each of the Convents of the four orders of Mendicant Friars in the city of Wincheſter, ten marks, to pray for his ſoul.

To fifteen of his kindred, for themſelves and for the children alſo of ſome of them, from one hundred to twenty pounds a piece, in the whole eight hundred twenty-three pounds ſix ſhillings and eight pence.

To Sclote Purbyk, ten pounds.

To each of the chief Juſtices, a ring to the value of five pounds.

To Mr. William Hengford, a ring of gold, or one table diamond, to the value of five pounds.

To Mr. Robert Faryngton, a pſalter, and a pair of beads.

To John Uvedale, and Henry Popham, (Eſqrs.) each of them a ſilver cup or jewel, to the value of ten marks.

To John Chamflour, Nicholas Bray, and Stephen Carre, each of them a cup or jewel, to the value of five pounds.

To Mr. William Savage, Rector of Overton, twenty pounds.

To Dr. John Keton, Precentor of the Church of Southampton, twenty pounds.

And other legacies, in plate or money, to be diſtributed to the perſons named in a roll, annexed to the Will, and ſealed with his ſeal, according to the directions therein contained. The number of the perſons, being others, of his friends, and his officers, and ſervants, of all degrees whatſoever, is above one hundred and fifty; and the value of theſe legacies in the whole amounts to near one thouſand pounds. All theſe he diſcharged in his lifetime, and had the pleaſure of diſtributing with his own hands.

He

He appoints Robert (Braybroke,) Biſhop of London, Dr. Nicholas Wykeham (Archdeacon of Wilts,) Dr. John Elmere (his Official General,) Dr. John Campeden (Archdeacon of Surry,) Thomas Chelrey, Steward of the lands of the Biſhoprick, Thomas Wykeham, his great-nephew and heir, and Dr. Thomas Ayleward Rector of Havont, to be his executors. To whom he bequeaths one thouſand pounds in recompence for their trouble in the adminiſtration of his Will, to be equally divided among thoſe of them only, who ſhould take upon them that charge.

The reſidue of his goods he leaves to be diſpoſed of by his executors for the health and remedy of his ſoul, (that is, to pious and charitable uſes,) faithfully and conſcientiouſly, as they ſhall anſwer it at the laſt day.

The whole value of the bequeſts of his will amounts to between ſix and ſeven thouſand pounds; the indeterminate condition of ſeveral articles making it impoſſible to reduce it to an exact eſtimation.

He [2] had before put Sir Thomas Wykeham his heir into poſſeſſion of manors and eſtates to the value of ſix hundred marks a year; and [3] he depoſited in the hands of the

[2] MS. Coll. Wint.

[3] Ex Originali Indentura in Archivis Coll. Wint.

Warden

Warden and Scholars of New College one hundred pounds for the defence of his title to the ſaid eſtates, to be kept by them, and to be applied to no other uſe whatever, for twenty years after the Biſhop's deceaſe; after which term, the whole, or remainder, not ſo applied, was to be freely delivered to Sir Thomas Wykeham, or his heirs.

As there are ſeveral other inſtances of Wykeham's munificence and charity, which I have not had occaſion to mention before, I ſhall recite them here in the order in which they happen to occur.

At [4] his firſt entrance upon the Biſhoprick of Wincheſter, he remitted to his poor tenants certain acknowlegements, uſually paid and due by cuſtom, to the amount of [5] five hundred and two pounds one ſhilling and ſeven pence.

To

[4] MS. Coll. Wint.

[5] "Recognicio tenencium Epiſcopatus Wynton. ſolvend. in "primo adventu cujuſlibet Epiſcopi: videlicet,
"De Taunton & Rympton c libr. xxxij s. viij d.
"De Dounton xliij libr. xv s. viij d.
"De Twyford xlj libr. xij s.
"De Waltham xxxij libr. xiij s. iiij d.
"De Meones lv libr. xiij s. iiij d.
"De Sutton xxxj libr. xix s. x d.
"De Farnham xxxiiij libr. xvj s. viij d.
"De Clera xxxviij libr. xiij. denar.

De

To [6] ſeveral Officers of the Biſhoprick, who were grown poor and become objects of his liberality, he at different times remitted ſums due to him, to the amount of two thouſand marks.

He [7] paid for his tenants three ſeveral times the ſubſidies granted to the King by Parliament.

In [8] the year 1377, out of his mere good will and liberality, he diſcharged the whole debts of the Prior and Convent of Selborne, to the amount of one hundred and ten marks, eleven ſhillings, and ſix pence: and [9] a few years before he died, he made a free gift to the ſame Priory of one hundred marks. On which accounts, the Prior and Convent voluntarily engaged for the celebration of two maſſes a day by two Canons of the Convent for ten years, for the Biſhop's welfare, if he ſhould

" De Wytteneye lxix libr. vij ſolid.
" Item de Ivyngho & Wergrave lij libr. x s.
" Sum. total. DII lib. xix denar."
MS. penes Dom. Epiſc. Wint. fol. 122.

The exact agreement of this MS. with MS. Coll. Wint. in this particular, ſhews the authority of the latter MS.; and confirms what I had before ſaid of it, (Pref. 1ſt Edit.) that the writer of it had acceſs to the accounts of Wykeham's ſtewards, and that it is the moſt authentic account of him that is extant.

[6] MS. Coll. Wint. [7] Ibid.
[8] Regiſt. Wykeham, part 3. b. fol. 209.
[9] Ibid. fol. 188.

live

live ſo long, and for his ſoul, if he ſhould die before the expiration of that term.

From [1] the time of his being made Biſhop of Wincheſter he abundantly provided for a certain number of poor, twenty four at the leaſt, every day; not only feeding them, but alſo diſtributing money among them to ſupply their neceſſities of every kind.

He [2] continually employed his friends, and thoſe that attended upon him, to ſeek out the propereſt objects of his charity; to ſearch after thoſe whoſe modeſty would not yield to their diſtreſſes, nor ſuffer them to apply for relief; to go to the houſes of the ſick and needy, and to inform themſelves particularly of their ſeveral calamities: and his beneficence adminiſtered largely to all their wants. He ſupported the infirm, he relieved the diſtreſſed, he fed the hungry, and he clothed the naked.

To [3] the poor Friars of the orders ſubſiſting on charity he was always very liberal. His hoſpitality was large, conſtant, and univerſal: his houſe was open to all, and frequented by the

[1] MS. Coll. Wint. & Tractat. in Vet. Regiſt. Coll. Wint.

[2] Ibid.

[3] Ibid. I meet with the following caſual inſtance of his liberality in this way, in Rot. Comp. Coll. Nov. anni 1377. "Item in diſtributione facta quattuor ordinibus fratrum mendi-"cantium Oxon. de elemoſina Domini, xiii lib. xix s. præcepto Domini

the rich and great, in proportion as it was crowded by the poor and indigent.

He [4] was ever attentive and compaſſionate to ſuch as were impriſoned for debt; he inquired into their circumſtances, compounded with their creditors, and procured their releaſe. In this article of charity he expended three thouſand marks.

The [5] roads between London and Wincheſter, and in many other places, when they were very bad, and almoſt impaſſable, he repaired and amended; making cauſeys, and building bridges, at a vaſt expence.

He [6] repaired a great number of Churches of his dioceſe, which were gone to decay; and moreover furniſhed them, not only in a decent, but even in a ſplendid manner, with books, veſtments, chalices, and other ornaments. In this way he beſtowed one hundred and thirteen ſilver chalices, and one hundred pair of veſtments: ſo that the articles of this kind, few in compariſon, which we find in his Will, were

" Domini: viz. fratribus Prædicatoribus lxx s. Minoribus ciii s. " Carmelitis lvii s. & Auguſtinenſibus xlix s. & ſic viz. omnibus " fratribus in villa Oxon. prædict. xii d." It appears from hence, that there were at this time in the city of Oxford 279 Mendicant Friars.

[4] MS. Coll. Wint.

[5] Ibid. & Tractat. in Vet. Regiſt. Coll. Wint.

[6] Ibid.

only

only intended by way of ſupplement to what he had done in his lifetime; that ſuch of the Churches of his patronage, which he had not had occaſion to conſider before as objects of his liberality, might not however ſeem to be wholly neglected by him.

He [7] gave to the Cathedral Church of Lincoln, while he was Archdeacon there, a ſilver chalice, weight ſeventy four oz. inſcribed "Memoriale Dom[i]. Willhelmi Wyckhami."

Beſide all this, he [8] purchaſed eſtates to the value of two hundred marks a year in addition to the demeſne lands of the Biſhoprick of Wincheſter, that he might leave there memorials of his munificence in every kind.

Though the other ornaments of his Oratory are deſtroyed, yet his monument remains there intire and unhurt to this day. It is of white marble, of very elegant workmanſhip, conſidering the time, with his effigies in his pontifical robes lying along upon it; and on a plate of braſs, running round the edge of the upper table of it, is the following inſcription in Latin verſe, of the ſtyle of that age.

Wilhelmus dictus Wykeham jacet hic nece dictus:
Iſtius eccleſiae praeſul, reparavit eamque.

[7] Dugdale Monaſt. III. 272.
[8] MS. Coll. Wint.

Largus erat, dapifer; probat hoc cum dives pauper:
Consiliis pariter regni fuerat bene dexter.
Hinc docet esse pium fundatio Collegiorum:
Oxoniae primum stat, Wintoniaeque secundum.
Jugiter oretis, tumulum quicunque videtis,
Pro tantis meritis ut sit sibi vita perennis.

THE LIFE OF WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM.

SECTION IX.

An Examination and Confutation of ſeveral things, that have been publiſhed to his diſcredit.

I Shall not attempt to form any other character of this great man, than what neceſſarily ariſes out of the facts already related, and from the whole tenor of his public life and actions, which I have endeavoured fairly to exhibit from undoubted evidences, without diſguiſe or amplification. Whatever other picture of him I ſhould pretend to ſet forth, it could only be looked upon as the work of mere imagination; there being now no original

drawing extant, ſufficient to furniſh out a complete piece, and to juſtify a higher colouring and more perfect finiſhing of a copy taken from it. The peculiar and diſtinguiſhing characters of men are much better conceived, and more accurately marked, from little circumſtances and incidents in private life, than from a long ſeries of actions in a public ſtation: theſe may raiſe in us a high idea of a great and good man, and ſtrike us with a diſtant admiration of his abilities, and his virtues; but it is by the former that we are introduced to his acquaintance, that we learn his particular turn, his temper, his humours, his failings, as well as his amiable qualities, and become in a manner intimate and familiar with him. I muſt acknowlege with much regret, that very few particulars relating to the private and domeſtic part of Wykeham's character are tranſmitted down to us. The writers of that age are very few, and they have given us but a ſhort and imperfect account even of the moſt important facts: ſuch of them, whom we may ſuppoſe to have had a nearer and perhaps a perſonal knowlege of him, which is the only foundation upon which the credit we give to more minute and circumſtantial informations can ſafely be built, have done very little towards gratifying our curioſity in this reſpect.

However,

However, not to omit whatever may be advanced upon reaſonable evidence, we find him in his early youth diſtinguiſhed for his piety and his diligence; raiſing himſelf from a low condition by his abilities, his induſtry, and his fidelity; meriting the regard and encouragement of ſeveral worthy and eminent patrons; and at length raiſed to the higheſt ſtations by the favour of two of the greateſt men that this nation has to boaſt of, Edward the Third and his ſon the Prince of Wales. We may well conclude from the conſtant courſe and quick progreſs of his riſing fortune, that he was not deficient in any of thoſe accompliſhments, that generally lay open and ſmooth the way to ſucceſs in the world: that he was a man of lively parts, of an engaging addreſs, and an agreeable converſation; and that he had in a great degree that ſort of natural penetration, which, aſſiſted with ſome experience, is neceſſary to the attainment of a ready and ſure knowlege of men and things. It is almoſt needleſs to obſerve, that one, who was poſſeſſed with ſuch a ſpirit of univerſal benevolence, muſt have been the beſt of maſters, the kindeſt and moſt generous patron, the moſt conſtant and affectionate friend: but all this we are not left to deduce by conſequence; we have evident proofs of the largeneſs and warmth of his heart in every inſtance

ſtance of this kind: we find [1] the liſt of his friends, his officers, his domeſtics, almoſt invariably the ſame; all receiving in their turns teſtimonies of his favour, and rewards of their ſervices; never leaving him, nor ever deſerted by him.

As to his public character he may be conſidered in two lights; as a Stateſman, and as a Benefactor.

His genius for buſineſs was ſtrong and univerſal: he was endowed by nature with a great capacity, and his induſtry had furniſhed him with a large ſtock of acquired qualifications, for the management of all ſorts of affairs; with a juſt theory of Law in all its branches, of the Canon, the Civil, and Common Law; and a perfect knowlege of the languages, and the forms, which were made uſe of in practice. The monuments which remain of his acts in this kind diſcover throughout evident marks of uncommon abilities; of a clear and exact comprehenſion of things, and the greateſt care and preciſion in the execution. His ſkill in architecture ſeems to have been only one part of that various treaſure of uſeful knowlege, which he had laid up in ſtore for occaſional applica-

[1] Regiſt. Wykeham. & Appendix. N° XVII.

tion,

tion, and not the main fund upon which he purposed to raiſe his fortune: his firſt employments were of a very different kind, and he ſtruck into this, as a fair opportunity offered, prompted by the impulſe of a ready genius, and the conſciouſneſs of his own ſufficiency for the undertaking. The ſame apt and pliable genius turned itſelf to ſtate affairs, with the ſame eaſe, and with equal ſucceſs. Edward the Third's opinion of him was fully juſtified: he proved an able, vigilant, indefatigable, and honeſt Miniſter; and at the ſame time that he advanced daily in his maſter's favour, he grew in the eſteem of the public. While[2] he purſued with zeal and fidelity the intereſts of the King, he did not forget or diſregard the eaſe and happineſs of the people; but was their conſtant advocate, and, as far as the neceſſities of the ſtate would permit, always preſerved them from exactions and oppreſſions. In[3] matters of doubt and difficulty he had a pene-

[2] "Totoque tempore ſui regiminis, tam temporibus Edwardi "quam Ricardi, ipſorum utrique obſequioſus extitit & fidelis; "ac populo regni favorabilis & plurimum gratioſus, ipſum "ſubſidiis & exactionibus ac aliis oppreſſionibus preſervans "continue." MS. Coll. Wint.

[3] "Erat conſultus in ambiguis; in reſponſis promptus, alacer, "affabilis; nec erat ejus ſermo ſterilis, nec otioſus; quem com-"mendabat laudabilis verborum & operum comitatus." Tractat. in Vet. Regiſt. Coll. Wint. & Brev. Chron.

trating and a ſound judgement: he was eaſy of acceſs, open and chearful in converſation, and ready in his anſwers to all that applied to him: his words were not unmeaning and evaſive, but his performances were always anſwerable to his profeſſions, and his actions kept pace with his promiſes. When he ſaw his two great friends, Edward the Third and the Prince of Wales, both together evidently declining and dying, and the whole power devolving into other hands, he had the courage, honour, and gratitude, to exert himſelf in behalf of thoſe who could not protect him, in oppoſition to thoſe who would in all probability ſoon have it in their power to deſtroy him: and this, as he muſt have foreſeen, in effect brought upon him that malicious attack of his enemies, which ſerved only in the end to ſhew that his integrity could ſtand the ſevereſt trial, and abide the ſtricteſt ſcrutiny; and to produce for the ſatisfaction of poſterity thoſe public teſtimonies of his honeſty and uprightneſs, which we ſhould otherwiſe have wanted. It is not to be wondered, that ſuch experience of unmerited perſecution ſhould teach him a leſſon of caution, and make him ſteady in the practice of it, in times of yet greater difficulty; when that uniform conduct of prudence and moderation, which from thenceforth diſtinguiſhes his public

public character, became equally expedient for the ſafety of his King and country, and for his own ſecurity.

We frequently hear of men, who by the force of their genius, by their induſtry, or by their good fortune, have raiſed themſelves from the loweſt ſtations, to the higheſt degrees of honour, power, and wealth: but how ſeldom do we meet with thoſe, who have made a proper uſe of the advantages which they have thus happily acquired, and conſidered them as depoſited in their hands by providence for the general benefit of mankind? In this reſpect Wykeham ſtands an uncommon and almoſt ſingular example of generoſity and public ſpirit. By the time that he had reached the meridian of life, he had acquired great wealth; and the remainder of his days he employed, not in increaſing it to no reaſonable end, but in beſtowing it in every way, that piety, charity, and liberality, could deviſe. The latter half of a long life he ſpent in one continued ſeries of generous actions and great deſigns, for the good of his friends, of the poor, and of his country. His beneficence was ever vigilant, active, and perſevering: it was not only ready to anſwer when opportunity called, but ſought it out when it did not offer itſelf. No man ſeems to have

have tasted more sensibly the pleasure of doing good; and no man had ever a greater share of this exquisite enjoyment. The foundation of his Colleges, the principal monuments of his munificence, was as well calculated for the real use of the public, and as judiciously planned, as it was nobly and generously executed. Whatever Wykeham's attainments in letters were, he had at least the good sense to see, that the Clergy, though they had almost engrossed the whole learning of that age, yet were very deficient in real and useful knowlege: beside that by the particular distresses of the times, and the havoc that several successive plagues had made, in all ranks of the people, but especially among the Clergy, the Church was at a loss for a proper supply of such as were tolerably qualified for the performance of the common service. It was not vanity and ostentation that suggested this design to him; he was prompted to it by the notorious exigence of the times, and the real demands of the public. The deliberation with which he entered upon it, and the constant attention with which he pursued it for above thirty years, shews how much he set his heart upon the success of his undertaking, and how earnestly he endeavoured to procure the effectual attainment of the end proposed, the promotion of true piety and learning.

ings. In a word, as he was in his own time a general bleſſing to his Country, in which his bounty was freely imparted to every object, that could come within the reach of his influence; ſo the memory of this great man merits the univerſal regard of poſterity, as of one, whoſe pious and munificent deſigns were directed to the general good of mankind, and were extended to the lateſt ages.

It is not to be wondered, that a man, who had met with ſuch uncommon ſucceſs, and who had been raiſed from a low condition of life to the moſt eminent ſtations, ſhould in the height of his fortune have become an object of envy, and have excited the malice of rivals and enemies. Motives of this kind may well be ſuppoſed to have had a ſecondary influence in the perſecution, that was once raiſed againſt him; and to have blown up the flame, that faction had firſt kindled. This however was but of ſhort continuance, and fell to the ground with the political cauſe that gave riſe to it. Wykeham had the happineſs, a very uncommon one with fallen ſtateſmen, even at the time that he was borne down by the power of his enemies, ſtill to retain his popularity; and he lived many years afterwards in an uninterrupted poſſeſſion of the love and eſteem of the public.

public. But that one of his beneficent and amiable character, whoſe generoſity and public ſpirit had been ſo univerſal, and was ſtill extended to poſterity, ſhould in after ages, and at a time when envy and faction are commonly ſilent and extinct, be loaded with imputations, as falſe and groundleſs, as they are ſcandalous and malicious; this muſt be looked upon as a ſingular hardſhip, and may juſtly raiſe both our ſurpriſe and indignation. Yet ſuch has been Wykeham's uncommon lot. The cauſes and motives, which have given birth to theſe imputations, and the means, by which they have been nurſed up, and ſent abroad into the world, though very obſcure, I ſhall here endeavour to trace out, and lay before the reader, with as much exactneſs and perſpicuity as I am able: and this inquiry I have choſen to reſerve to this place, where without interrupting other matters, I might purſue it more minutely, in order to give him the fuller ſatisfaction.

The ſole foundation of moſt of the imputations, which have prevailed to the diſadvantage of Wykeham's character, and which have found place in many of our hiſtories, appears to have been a Paper containing ſhort notes relating to him, which was in the hands of that learned

learned and induſtrious antiquary, the famous Mr. John Leland.

As Leland was very diligent in collecting every thing that was curious relating to our hiſtories and antiquities, he entered theſe notes in his common-place book, among ſeveral tranſcripts and extracts from different manuſcripts. A copy of this common-place book of Leland, tranſcribed from that in his own hand-writing, is extant in the Bodleian library: Mr. Hearne has publiſhed it, and it makes the appendix to the fourth volume of Leland's Itinerary.

Another copy of the ſame notes is preſerved in the Cotton Library. This has a title prefixed to it with the name of the Author. The notes are called *Dr. London's Report*.

As theſe notes have attracted the notice of ſome of our earlier hiſtorians, who have given credit to them without having ſufficiently examined their authority, it becomes a matter of ſome importance to aſcertain their origin, and to remove the doubts, which have been raiſed concerning them. And this I am now enabled to do by the favour of the Reverend Mr. Beauvoir of Canterbury, who has in his poſſeſſion the Original Paper of the hand-writing of Leland; and has very kindly communicated to me a copy of it moſt exactly taken, in regard

to

to the form and manner, and even the hand-writing. I ſhall here give the Reader the notes, not only faithfully copied, but, as nearly as I can, in the form, in which they appear on that paper: becauſe from the form itſelf may very probably be inferred the manner in which Leland noted down this report, as he received it from the author. For which purpoſe it is to be obſerved, that theſe notes are written by Leland on one ſide of half a ſheet of paper, which appears to have been the cover of a Letter already directed by himſelf to one of his friends. Applying for ſome account of Wykeham to Dr. London, as a perſon who by his ſtation had the beſt means of informing him, and whom he appears by the following circumſtances to have met with rather by chance than by appointment, and he being ready to comply with the requeſt; he took out of his pocket this Letter, for want of a better ſupply of paper at hand; and on the cover of it, over the direction, which now ſtands among the notes, interminxed reverſedly with them, noted from Dr. London's mouth the account, which he had to communicate. The contents of the Paper are as follows:

Doctor

Doctor London

"[1.] William Perot alias Wikam becauſe "he was borne at Wikam in Hampſhire "ſum ſuppoſe that he was a baſtarde "Perot the paroche clarks ſun of Wikam

"[2.] Perot brought up by Mr. Wodale of "Wikam lernid grammer and to write faire

"[3.] The conſtable of Wincheſter caſtelle "at that time a great ruler in Hampſhire got "Perot of Wodale and made hym his clerke

"[4.] Eduarde the 3. cummyng to Win-"cheſter caſtel lykid Perot and took hym to "ſeruice

"[5.] Eduarde the 3. underſtanding that "Perot had mynde to be preſte made hym "firſt perſone of S. Martines in London and "then Dean of S. Martines in London. then "Archidiacon of Bukingham

"[6.] Eduarde the 3. made him ſurueiar of "his buildings as of Windeſore and Quin-"burge in Kent and other buildings

"[7.] Then Eduard made hym berer of "the priuie ſeale Mr. of the Wards and the "foreſts

"[8.] [a] Wikam was treſorer for the re-"uenewes of Fraunce

[a] This article is interlined, in a ſmaller character, between the preceding and following lines. I note this as another mark, that Leland took this account from Dr. London as he dictated it, not from any writing communicated by him.

"[9.] Then

" [9.] Then he made hym bisshop of Win-
" chester chancelar and Treasorer of England
" as it uery manifestely apperith by writing
" [10.] The blak prince scant fauorid Wi-
" kam
" [11.] Wikam procurid to kepe the prince
" in batell out of the realme
" [12.] John of Gaunt duke of Lancaster
" ennemie to Wikam
" [13.] Alice Porrers
" concubine to Eduard
" the 3. cauſſid
" Wikam to be baniſhid and then he dwellid
" in Normandie and Picardi a [about] 7 yeres
" Eduard the 3. yet lying [lyving]
" [14.] Wikam reſtorid aboute the 2 yere
" of Richard the 2. of whom he had a generale
" pardone"

The reader may be ready to inquire, who this Dr. London is; and will no doubt be ſurpriſed, when he is informed, that Dr. London, the author and propagator of all this ſcandal upon Wykeham, was one who owed his education and ſubſiſtence to Wykeham's bounty, and had the honour of being at the head of the principal

principal of his two Societies, being Warden of New College in Oxford, at the time when Leland was employed in making his Collections. If it is further demanded, with what deſign, and from what motive, he could give ſo diſhonourable, as well as ſo abſurd an account of his great Benefactor, I am wholly at a loſs for an anſwer to the queſtion, and know not whether to charge it to his malice or his ignorance. All I can do towards the clearing up of this matter, is to give the hiſtory and character of Dr. London, as I find it recorded on good authority; that any one, who is deſirous of ſatisfying himſelf of the degree of credit that is due to his teſtimony, may have ſome ground to go upon in forming his judgement.

John London was admitted of New College in the year 1505; became LL. B. in 1512, and LL. D. in 1518. He was about this time Canon of York and Lincoln, and Domeſtic Chaplain to Archbiſhop Warham. He was elected Warden of New College in 1526; was Vicar of Abberbury; (both which laſt preferments he reſigned in 1542;) and Prebendary of Shipton in the Church of Sarum: afterwards he became Canon of Windſor, Dean of Oſney, (1542) and of the Collegiate Chapel of Wallingford Berks. After the death of Warham

in 1532, he inſinuated himſelf into the good graces of Cromwell, and was much employed by him in the ſuppreſſion of monaſteries; he was one of the Viſitors, and acted with great zeal in the removing of Images and Reliques. After the fall of Cromwell, he as dexterouſly made his court to Gardiner Biſhop of Winchester; and to compenſate for what he had done before, he offered his moſt zealous ſervices to him, and became his inſtrument and under-agent in all his meaſures. He was the perſon principally employed by him in contriving and carrying on the plot to deſtroy Cranmer: but the apparent malice and falſhood of the accuſation brought againſt the good Archbiſhop induced the King to take him under his protection. At the ſame time he was engaged in another ſcheme of the ſame kind, and under the ſame director: he made it his buſineſs, in conjunction with one Symonds a Lawyer, to procure evidence againſt ſeveral perſons in Windſor, who were ſuſpected of favouring the Reformation; and he laid his informations before Gardiner; on which three perſons were convicted upon the Six Articles, and burnt. However he and his aſſociate were not ſatisfied with this ſucceſs: their plot was carried ſtill further, and aimed at ſeveral very conſiderable perſons of the Court; but was diſcovered before

fore all their meaſures were concerted. They were apprehended, and charged with it; and being put to their oaths denied it. Their own hand-writing was then produced againſt them: and being thus convicted of Perjury, they were adjudged to be carried on horſe-back through Windſor, Reading, and Newbury, with their faces to the horſes tails, and then to ſtand in the pillory in the ſame places; which was executed accordingly. This diſgrace ſunk ſo deep in the heart of Dr. London, that he died ſoon after in the Fleet priſon, in the year 1543[s].

Though I doubt not that every competent judge muſt be fully ſatisfied, upon the firſt reading of this Report, of its inaccuracy in general, and of the apparent falſhood of many particulars in it; and that, with regard to ſome points more obſcure and doubtful, very little credit will be thought due to an author, who has been ſo egregiouſly miſtaken in others, where the truth was ſo eaſily to be found; yet I think it neceſſary to enter into a brief examination of the ſeveral articles of it, and to point out diſtinctly, what is true, falſe, or doubtful in each, with the degree of evidence, with which the truth or falſhood of the particulars is proved.

[s] Fox: A. Wood. Strype. Burnet.

1. Nothing can be more certain than that Wykeham's family-name was not Perot; though Leland himſelf, miſled by this informant, was of that opinion. This author does not affirm, that he was a Baſtard; he only ſays, that ſome ſuppoſe it: however it does not at all appear, that it ever was ſuppoſed by any one, before this inſinuation of his was publiſhed. It is hardly worth while to go about to confute ſuch a ſurmiſe not ſupported by the leaſt evidence; it deſerves no other notice than a bare denial of the truth of it: but that it is abſolutely falſe, is in the higheſt degree probable, from the account given of his Parents, and of the number of his relations both by the Father's and the Mother's ſide from undoubted authorities[6]. I ſhall only add, that if Wykeham was a Baſtard,[7] he could not have been admitted to any Orders without a diſpenſation from his Dioceſan, nor to Holy Orders without a diſpenſation from the Pope: the former muſt have been granted to him by Edyngdon Biſhop of Wincheſter before he ordained him Accolite, and the latter muſt have been tendered to the ſame in order

[6] See Appendix, N° XVIII.

[7] I. Cabaſſutii Juris Canonici Theoria & Praxis. lib. 2. cap. 9. ſect. 2.

to

to his being ordained by him Subdeacon; and both would regularly have been entered in his Regiſter: yet no traces of any ſuch diſpenſation in either caſe are to be found there. The laſt clauſe of this article, "Perot the "paroche clerks ſun of Wikam," is of the ſame kind; manifeſtly falſe in one particular, for his Father's name was not Perot; and that either Perot, or his Father, was pariſh clerk of Wickham, is neither proved by any evidence, nor favoured by any tradition.

2, 3, and 4. In theſe articles the Report differs from all the authors that wrote neareſt to Wykeham's time: they mention not Wodale, or Uvedale, by name; but from their account, and from a tradition that ſtill prevails, Uvedale is ſuppoſed to have been Wykeham's patron, and to have been the ſame perſon with the Conſtable of Wincheſter Caſtle. The particular of Edward the Third's meeting with Wykeham firſt at Wincheſter, is deſtitute of proof: Archbiſhop Parker ſays, that he was firſt made known to the King at Windſor; which is equally uncertain. The moſt antient authors only ſay, that he was brought to Court, and taken into the King's ſervice.

5. Out of the particulars herein mentioned two are falſe: he never was Parſon of St. Martin's, nor Archdeacon of Buckingham.

7, 8, and 9. I find no evidence of his ever having been Maſter of the Wards, or Treaſurer of the Revenues of France; and that he never was Treaſurer of England, very manifeſtly appeareth by the Public Records.

10. The contrary to this I think I have proved beyond all doubt; and that not only by probable arguments and conſequences, drawn from the circumſtances of the hiſtory of thoſe times, but by direct evidence from Records, ſuch as was hardly to be expected in this caſe.

11. What the Reporter adds in the next article is merely an invention of his own, drawn by conſequence or conjecture from the former; yet wholly improbable, even allowing the truth of the former article.

12. This, without any circumſtances added of time or occaſion, is very inaccurate; ſo that the contrary might be affirmed in the ſame manner with equal truth.

13, and 14. In the two concluding articles, the Reporter hath betrayed his extreme ignorance of every thing relating to the ſubject, upon which he pretended to give information. Any common chronicle might have taught him better, and prevented his running into ſuch groſs errors. And yet even in theſe, by paſſing under the reſpectable name of Leland, he has had authority enough to miſlead ſucceeding hiſtorians,

hiſtorians, and has introduced the utmoſt confuſion into this part of Wykeham's hiſtory. I have evidently and diſtinctly ſhewn, that Wykeham's troubles were juſt of ſeven months continuance; that he was abſent from Court, being ordered not to come within twenty miles of it, reſiding chiefly in the monaſteries of Merton and Waverly, juſt two months; that he was reſtored by Edward the Third, and that he received his pardon from Richard the Second within ſix weeks of his acceſſion to the throne.

Such is the Report, the falſhoods contained in which, though at any time ſo eaſy to be detected, yet have in ſome degree crept into moſt of our hiſtories: a remarkable proof of the extreme negligence of our hiſtorians, and how little their teſtimony is to be depended upon, where it is not ſupported by clear and authentic evidence.

To ſtate this caſe in a few words; it appears from what has been ſaid, that Dr. London was the author of the Report; that Leland only took it down in writing; and that he has not given it any mark of his approbation: And yet, merely becauſe it was found among his Collections, our Hiſtorians have taken it for Leland's own, and have given credit to it, and

propagated the belief of it, under the ſanction of his authority. Hollinſhed ſeems to have led the way in this miſtake: he has given in detail all the particulars therein mentioned, quoting Leland for them. Others, though they have not adopted the whole, yet have generally been led into many errors by the ſame miſtaken authority; and there is hardly any account of Wykeham written ſince Leland's time, but what has in ſome degree been infected with falſhood from the ſame quarter.

A late anonymous Annotator to a late Hiſtorian, likewiſe anonymous, in the Collection called the Complete Hiſtory of England, has retailed moſt of theſe particulars, with a deſign, as it ſeems, of correcting his author, who in his opinion had ſpoken too favourably of Wykeham; and has added to them the following reflections: "[s] The reward of good actions "is to be expected according to the ſincerity of "the

[s] Comp. Hiſt. of England, Vol. i. page 291. Mr. Hearne having inſinuated, that Biſhop Kennett was the Author of this Note, the Biſhop in a Letter to Mr. Hearne denied that he was "the Author, Publiſher, or Reviſor of that Volume, or of any "Note or Line in it." See the Preface to Vol. 4th and 7th of Leland's Itinerary publiſhed by Hearne. "He had no manner "of hand in any branch of the two former [Volumes of Comp. "Hiſt. of England,] nor in the Preface to them, which was "written

"the heart. An oſtentation of Charity and "the merit of Alms in thoſe days put people "on wicked courſes to ſhew their beneficence "to the Church and Churchmen.---No won-"der he raiſed ſuch a mighty eſtate in his "miniſtry, conſidering he lived in ſo looſe a "Government as that of King Richard the "Second." I ſhall leave the reader to judge, as he ſhall think proper, of the ſpirit with which theſe reflections are made, and of the grounds upon which they are raiſed. But with regard to the laſt clauſe, the readers of this Hiſtory are to be reminded, that Wykeham's miniſtry was under Edward the Third, in whoſe time his eſtate was raiſed, and in whoſe time he conceived the whole deſign of his public charities, and began to put it in execution; that he bore no place of profit under Richard the Second, except that of Chancellor, ſomething more than two years, which was forced upon him; and that however looſe this King's

"written by Mr. Hughes;" ſays the Author of Biſhop Kennett's Life, p. 33.

N. B. The author of this part of Comp. Hiſt. of England ſays, that Wykeham was one of the Ambaſſadors ſent to Guiſnes to treat of Queen Iſabel's reſtitution in 1401; and that he married Henry the fourth to the Ducheſs of Britany in St. Swythin's Church Wincheſter, in Feb. 1402—3: neither of which is true.

Govern-

Government might be, it was not chargeable upon Wykeham, who had no connection with his ministers and favourites; but on the contrary, was always applied to, and entrusted by the Parliament, as a fit person to assist in the reforming and correcting of the enormities so much complained of in the government.

Thus far has Wykeham undeservedly suffered in his reputation, through the malice and ingratitude, or at least the ignorance and presumption, of a man, who owed every thing to his bounty; a man, who seems to have boldly undertaken to inform others in a matter of importance, in which he appears to have used no care to inform himself; one who was as void of all regard to truth, as of respect to the memory of his great benefactor. It is not to be wondered, if others, who might be supposed upon any account to be influenced by ill-will towards his memory, should have taken occasion from hence to load him with infamy, and have endeavoured to improve upon this first essay of calumny and detraction.

This has been lately done, with a degree of virulence that is almost without example, by one William Bohun of the Middle Temple Esq;

Eſq;[a]: who having without any juſt cauſe conceived a violent reſentment againſt the Society of New College in Oxford, firſt endeavoured, in the impotence of his wrath, to revenge himſelf by a vexatious proſecution commenced againſt the perſon of their worthy Governor: but not ſatisfied with this, and thinking

[a] Mr. Bohun had lent a ſum of money to one Combes, the Leſſee of the Manor of Birchanger in Eſſex under New College, and ſued out an Execution againſt him, intending to ſeize on Combes's Term in Birchanger, as a Chattel, by Sheriff's Writ, for the ſecurity of his debt. Combes in the mean time had made an Aſſignment of his Leaſe to Eustace Budgell Eſq; ſo that when the Writ came to be executed, Combes had no Property in Eſſex, and the Sheriff was forced to return it with the Indorſement of *Nulla Bona*. Mr. Bohun proſecuted the Sheriff for non-execution of his Writ, who ſtood a Trial, the event of which I know not.

The College had confirmed Combes's Aſſignment by granting a new Leaſe to Budgell: when in the year 1726 Bohun met the College Progreſs in Eſſex, and firſt expoſtulated with Mr. Pryor, then Fellow of the College and acting upon that occaſion as Deputy Steward, on the ſuppoſed injuſtice of their proceedings; alleging, that they had no authority to receive a Surrender, or make a Grant of an Eſtate, while (to uſe his own expreſſion) the King's Hands were upon it. Mr. Pryor contented himſelf with anſwering, that the Society had not acted in that affair without taking due advice, and that they were ready to juſtify their conduct, whenever they ſhould be called upon by a proper authority.

This was all that paſſed in Mr. Pryor's preſence: but Dr. Bigg, Warden of the College, ſent for Mr. Bohun into the parlour of the houſe where the College Courts were held, and there

thinking he could give them a blow, which would affect them more ſenſibly, by wounding the reputation of their Founder, he ſet himſelf to collect every thing he could meet with that was capable of being repreſented to his diſcredit, and to improve it with new and horrible calumnies of his own invention. Being a frequent Publiſher, it ſeems, in the way of his

there in the preſence of Mr. Budgell, and Mr. Coker, (then Fellow of the College, and by his office attending upon the Warden in his Progreſs,) undertook to reaſon the matter with him calmly and diſpaſſionately in behalf of the Society's proceedings. But finding himſelf unable to make any impreſſion on him, and high words ariſing between Bohun and Budgell, the Warden thought proper to withdraw. Soon after Budgell having gradually ſhoved Bohun off the end of the bench on which they both ſat, Bohun ſtruck him, and the Gentlemen exerciſed their Canes on each other pretty ſmartly; the conſequence of which was victory to Budgell, and a ſevere beating to Bohun.

Bohun on his recovery, not only brought an Action againſt Budgell for an Aſſault, but likewiſe ſwore the Peace againſt the Warden; alleging, that he was a Confederate with Budgell, and aiding and abetting to him; ſince the Warden had invited Bohun into the houſe, and ought to have protected him during his ſtay in it. The Warden was obliged to attend in perſon at Weſtminſter-Hall, and to give Bail for his further appearance; but Bohun proceeding no further againſt him, the matter, ſo far as concerned the Warden and the College, dropped there.

This account has been communicated to me by two Gentlemen of great honour and integrity, both therein mentioned as preſent on the occaſion; John Coker of Biceſter in the County of Oxford Eſq; and Thomas Pryor Eſq; Steward of New College Oxford.

own

own Profeſſion, he took care to introduce into the next performance, which he preſented to the world, his ſcurrilous Libel on the Illuſtrious Dead: and it muſt be owned, he has introduced it with ſingular propriety; for it comes in by way of illuſtration on the ſubject of Scandalum Magnatum. The Book itſelf is intitled The Engliſh Lawyer [1]. As it is not of ſufficient note to be eaſily met with by any one who ſhall think it worth his while, upon this occaſion, to enquire after it; and as I would deal fairly by the reader, and lay before him the whole charge that this author has brought againſt Wykeham, that he may be the better able to judge of the truth of it, I muſt here trouble him with a large extract from it of every thing which it contains to that purpoſe; which is as follows [2].

"But the truth of the caſe as to "the motives or occaſion of mak- "ing the Stat. 2 R. 2. was thus.— "In the declining years of King Edward 3. "*W. Wickham* Biſhop of *Wincheſter*, in whom "that King intirely confided, had found means "to introduce his Niece or Siſter (the famed

"The occaſion of the Stat. 2. R. 2."

[1] London, 8vo. 1732.

[2] Pag. 200——203.

"*Alice*

" *Alice Pierce*) to the King's Favour and Bed; " and by her means had got into the chief " management of the Councils and Revenues " of the Kingdom, ſo far as to exclude even " the King's Sons the *Black Prince*, and *John* " of *Gaunt*, from intermeddling in " public affairs. This conduct of " *Wickham* raiſed high reſentments " in the *Prince* and *Gaunt* againſt " *Wickham* and his party (who were the body " of the *Prelates* and *Eccleſiaſtics*,) and poſſibly " might occaſion their favouring of *Wickliff*, " &c. who then firſt appeared in oppoſition to " the Eccleſiaſtic Hierarchy. They both pur- " ſued the matter with ſo much earneſtneſs as " to obtain an order for the removal of *Wick-* " *ham* and *Alice* from the perſon of the King. " But before this could be fully effected the " Prince died, ſuſpected of being poiſoned by " a zealot againſt hereſy (or one of *Alice*'s " agents). However the conteſt went on be- " twixt *Gaunt* and *Wickham*, and " *Gaunt* charges *Wickham* with " embezzling above 1,100,000 " pounds of the public money, a prodigious " ſum, above ten millions of our money; and " if true (as there is good ground to believe " for a great part) might well enable him to " ſtand

" The quarrel between W. Wickham and John of Gaunt."

" See the firſt article of the charge againſt Wickham."

"found and endow his colleges out of the "plunder of the public."

"But this charge by *Gaunt* againſt *Wick-* "*ham*, and his favouring Wick- "lief, &c. ſo ſpirited the rage of "the Prelates and Clergy againſt "*Gaunt*, that their utmoſt ma- "lice was employed, and even the pulpit itſelf "proſtituted to ſcandalize and defame him: "*Infidel* and *Heretic* were their ſofter terms: "*Traytor* and *Rebel* were more common: he "was generally repreſented by them as one "that affected the kingdom, of which to ren- "der him utterly incapable, they ſaid he was a "*Suppoſititious* Child, a *Baſtard*, &c. of which "report *Wickham* was doubtleſs the *Promoter*, "if not the *Author*. For it was induſtriouſly "reported among the *Prelates* and Clergy, that "Queen *Iſabel* had on her death-bed confeſſed "to *Wickham* that *Gaunt* was the ſon of a "*Flemiſh* woman, and not the ſon of her or "the King. But this report was not openly "ſpread till after the death of King *Edward* "the Third."

"The rage and "ſcandal of the "Prelates againſt "Gaunt."

"But notwithſtanding the malice of *Wick-* "*ham* and the Clergy prevailed ſomewhat on "the *Commons*, yet *Gaunt* found ſo much "favour and intereſt among the temporal no- "bility, as upon Edward the Third's death to be

" be conſtituted Protector of the young King " Richard II. and the kingdom."

" But being re- " conciled, the " ſtatute paſſed."

" Hereupon a new proſecution " was commenced againſt *Wick-* " *ham* for *Forgery*, *Bribery*, *Cor-* " *ruption*, &c. and new ſcandals were raiſed " againſt *Gaunt*; but in the end, by ſolicita- " tion of the *Prelates* on one ſide, and the " Temporal Peers on the other, an accommo- " dation paſſed between them; and upon " *Gaunt*'s dropping the proſecution *Wickham* " took his oath in full Parliament that he was " neither the Author, nor would be the *Fautor* " of thoſe ſcandals; and utterly diſavowed the " mention of his illegitimacy by Queen *Iſabel*: " and urged that the authors of that report had " ſcandalized him more than they had the " *Duke*; and earneſtly preſſed, that the authors " and ſpreaders of thoſe reports might be " puniſhed, &c. as a ſcandal thrown on a " Right Reverend *Prelate*, as well as on a moſt " noble *Duke*. And hereupon was enacted the " Statute 2. R. 2.

" Wickham al- " ſo the occaſion " of 12. R. 2. " c. 2.

" As to the Statute 12. R. 2: " I can at preſent ſay little more " than that I find *Wickham* was " this year again made Chancellor; and poſ- " ſibly remembring the old quarrel, was wil- " ling to ſooth and mollify the Duke's diſpoſi- tion

" tion towards him. And as on occaſion he " was a moſt artful flatterer, ſo knowing the " utmoſt of the Duke's deſires was to have the " honour of his birth guarded againſt ſuch a " horrid (or horrible ſcandal, as the Act calls " it) and knowing that high dignity without " the Duke's favour would but rip up old " wounds, he therefore anticipates the Duke's " wiſhes, and procures the Act of 12 R. 2. " almoſt in the ſame terms as the former, with " a *further puniſhment* (beſides impriſonment) " by *the advice of the (King's or Kingdom's)* " Council."

" I have but briefly hinted at ſome few " things in *Wickham*'s ſtory, which, were the " whole enlarged as it might, would prove " that Prelate to have a genius far ſuperior to " any modern *Biſhop*, *Chancellor*, or Lord " *Treaſurer*, who had the art and addreſs dur- " ing eight or ten years of a profound peace, " not only to ſcreen the whole revenues of the " kingdom through his own fingers; or, as " the articles ſay, had the whole diſpoſal of " the King's money both here and beyond ſea, " with all the ſubſidies and aids both great and " ſmall; but alſo the price paid for the re- " demption of the two Kings of *France* and " *Scotland* with the money given by the inha- " bitants of *Burgundy* to redeem their country

"from military execution; as also 100,000 "franks from the Duke of *Millain*, with pre- "sents and gifts from other princes; so that "from 26 *Nov.* 35 Ed. 3. to 43 of that reign, "the money computed to be heaped up by "him, amounted to 1,109,600 *l.* which vast "sum this Prelate is charged to have received, "and yet though in time of peace, both the "King and Kingdom by his artful manage- "ment was run in debt; of which he acquitt- "ed himself, by rendering himself unaccount- "able; and at length (when Chancellor) ac- "quitted himself by passing his own pardon, "&c."

Thus far our author in his English Lawyer: but being sensible that his malice was like to prove very innocent, and would be in a great measure lost, while it lay hid in his own obscure volume; he took the first opportunity that offered itself, though it was many years first, of publishing his libel more effectually, by tacking it on to a work of some credit, and that would be more generally read. The vehicle, that he made use of for this purpose, was Nathaniel Bacon's Historical and Political Discourse of the Laws and Government of England. A new edition of this book was publish-

ed

ed in the year 1739. The Booksellers, who were engaged in it, employed Mr. Bohun to correct the press. What else he undertook, I know not; but this is the whole that he has performed to give him a claim to the title of Editor, except that he has added a very few notes, scattered here and there in the margin, containing hardly any thing beside the foregoing calumnies against Wykeham, drawn into a narrower compass, and introduced as occasion best served. The notes relating to Wykeham, (and they are by much the greatest part of the whole,) are as follows.

Bacon's Discourse, page 4. (speaking of Ed. 3.)——"to die in his minority under the rule "of a woman of none of the best fame."] Marginal note, "*i. e.* Alice Piers W. Wick-"ham's niece, or *&c.* and by him laid in the "King's bosom."

Ibid. p. 5.——"the Duke of Lancaster en-"gaged with the Wicclifists."] Note, "This "induced the Ecclesiastics (especially Wick-"ham, *&c.*) to publish most malicious scan-"dals against Gaunt, which occasioned the se-"veral statutes De Scandalis Magnatum, 5. & "ro. R. 2."

Ibid. p. 37. "8tat. 2. cap. 5. Rich. 2. to "apprehend heretics."] Note, "This pre-

"tended ſtatute ſeems to have been formed by "the artifice of Biſhop Wickham (then Chan-"cellor) and by him ſhuffled in amongſt the "rolls of Parliament. See the complaint of "the Commons *infra*."

Ibid. p. 66.——"a law that all ſuch as "publiſhed ſuch *falſe news*, to ſow ſtrife be-"tween great men,"—with reference to "2 R. "2. c. 6. & 12 R. 2. c. 11."] Note, "Theſe "ſtatutes were made on occaſion of a quarrel "between William Wickham Biſhop of Win-"cheſter and John of Gaunt, who had been "ſcandalouſly reflected on by Wickham and "his Clergy, even in their pulpits. See Wick-"ham's Life."

Though, after what I have already written upon this ſubject, the bare reporting of ſo groundleſs, ſo malicious, and ſo abſurd a collection of ſlander, would be a ſufficient confutation of it; yet I ſhall take the trouble of reviewing it, and examining the ſeveral particulars which it contains, in order to ſet the truth in the cleareſt and fulleſt light that my materials will enable me to do.

To conſider in the firſt place the charge of Wykeham's connection with Alice Perrers. This

This Lady was Maid of Honour[3] to Edward the Third's Queen Philippa: whoever the perſon was that recommended her to the Queen's ſervice, he might perhaps act very rightly and commendably in ſo doing, and could not be anſwerable for the conſequences. In this ſtation ſhe could not eſcape the King's notice, nor would ſhe ſtand in need of any other recommendation to his favour, beſide that of her own beauty and accompliſhments. Mr. Rohun ſays, ſhe was introduced to the King in his *declining* years; Bacon calls it his *minority*, meaning, I ſuppoſe, his dotage: in this they are

[3] This circumſtance alone renders the account, which the author of MS. Harleian. N° 6217, chap. 8, gives of Alice Perrers's low birth, very improbable. However, as it is an anecdote, I ſhall preſent it to the Reader: "There was at the "ſayne tyme in Englande a ſhameleſſe woman and wanton har-"lott called Alys Pere, of baſe kynred, for ſhe was a wever's "doughter of the towne of Hunneye, [*in the margin*, Hunneyte, "byſyds Exceſtur as ſome ſupoſe.] but helped by fortune, "beyng nether bewtifull nor fayre, ſhe knew how to cover "thoſe defects with her flatterynge younge, whom fortune had "ſo exalted, (of a poore ſervant and harlott of a certen foole "that uſed with his hands to carye water from the conndiet to "meths howſes for neceſſarye uſes) that ſhe had promoted her to "the familiarytye of the kynge more then was convenyent, and, "the Quene yet lyvynge, ſholde preſer her in the kynge's love "before the ſaied Quene. This woman after ſhe was in the "kynge's frendſhipp had ſo bewitched hym, that he permytted "the warres and greateſt matters of the realme to be deſyned "by her councell."

both miſtaken, as indeed are all our late Hiſtorians. The truth of the matter is, that Alice Perrers had gained the King's good graces above ten years at leaſt before he died. How much earlier the date of his affection for her ought to be placed, I cannot ſay; but from the beginning of the forty firſt year of his reign, when he was not a very old man, and far from a dotard, even our Records themſelves carry evident proofs of it. Her intereſt in the King was by this time throughly eſtabliſhed; for from henceforward to the end of his reign there hardly paſſed any year, in which ſhe did not obtain very conſiderable grants from the crown. Mr. Bohun is pleaſed to ſay, that ſhe was "introduced to the King's favour and "bed," and afterwards improving upon his expreſſion, that ſhe was "laid in the King's "boſom," by Wykeham. A bare aſſertion of his, of ſuch a nature, for which he produces no voucher, and for which he could not poſſibly have any to produce, would be properly anſwered, and ſufficiently refuted by a bare denial. But we need not reſt the matter upon this iſſue: we may appeal to hiſtory for the determination of it. We have the concurrent teſtimony of hiſtorians to prove, that Wykeham was baniſhed from Court, and ſtripped of

his

his temporalities, by the united influence of Alice Perrers and the Duke of Lancaſter: they give not the leaſt intimation of his having gotten into the chief management of the councils and revenues of the kingdom by the means of Alice Perrers; on the contrary, they give a very different account of his riſe, and aſcribe it to other cauſes, and thoſe wholly of another kind. I have already proved from unqueſtionable authorities, that Alice Perrers was at one time Wykeham's avowed and bitter enemy: hiſtory affords not the leaſt colour of proof, that there ever ſubſiſted between them any particular connection of friendſhip.

But ſays Mr. Bohun, "Alice Piers was "Wickham's niece, or ſiſter;" and afterwards, that he might allow full ſcope to the invention of any other forger of calumny that might ſucceed him, "his niece, or, &c." He is doubtful of the relation, thinks it beſt to abide by that of niece, as moſt probable, but is rather willing to have it thought ſome other, in the preſent caſe, or in its general nature, more infamous. This particular of Alice Perrers being Wykeham's near relation, is a circumſtance which he has laid hold of and improved from a mere ſurmiſe of Archbiſhop Parker, which the Archbiſhop indeed expreſſes with much

doubt and hesitation. "[4] Among which Le-
"gacies" (says he, speaking of Wykeham's Will) "one hundred pounds are bequeathed "to Alice Perot his kinswoman: whether this "person was the same with her whom the hiſ-"torians call Alice Perres, by whom, as we "have said, he was reconciled to the King, is "uncertain." The Archbiſhop in ſome other inſtances has not treated Wykeham with that candour, which belonged to his own character, and was due to Wykeham's. What he ſays of the extreme lowneſs and ſervile condition of his birth, of his total deficiency in learning, of his recovering his temporalities by bribing Alice Perrers, (which, by the way, one would think was a method he needed not to have had recourſe to, had ſhe been his near relation) are of this kind; founded on no ſufficient proof, and indeed for the moſt part deſtitute of probability; as I have already ſhewn. "[5] He was "always a frugal man," (adds he) "and by "his very parſimony acquired great wealth." This, though it may be interpreted in a fa-

[4] "Inter quæ legitur 100 *l.* Alicia Perot conſanguinea ſua "conceduntur: quæ an eadem fuerit quam Aliciam Perres hiſ-"toriographi nuncupant, cujus, ut diximus, gratia Regi recon-"ciliatus fuerit, interim eſt." Antiq. Britan. ad an. 1376.

[5] "Vir ſemper frugi fuit, atque ipſa parſimonia quandam "fecit maximum." Ibid.

vourable

vourable sense and as a commendation, yet surely belongs not to the portrait which he is drawing; it bears no resemblance to the open-hearted and generous Wykeham, whose life was one continued course of liberality and munificence. As to the Archbishop's conjecture above mentioned, it is so destitute of all proper foundation, that it would hardly be worth considering, were it not that his authority may possibly give some weight to it. It appears to be wholly built on the similitude of names; and that too very slight and imperfect. The christian name is indeed the same: but it must be observed, that Alice was a name very much in vogue in that age, and perhaps the most common female name of any whatever. I remember to have observed in Wykeham's [6] register a list of nuns, near half of whom, (five out of thirteen,) were Alices. Nothing therefore can be concluded from hence. As for the surnames; Perrers is expressed in the records with much variation; it is also written Perers, Perreres, and de Pereris: but the name of Wykeham's niece, which likewise occurs in many records of unquestionable authority, is, in all that I have seen, invariably Perot; very different in orthography from the former,

[6] Part 3. b. fol. 182.

which

which way ſoever written, and not at all like it in ſound. So that the true ſtate of the caſe is this: the names at firſt ſight are very little alike; and when you come to examine them, they plainly appear to be quite different. Here is no room for an argument, or even for a conjecture: I might juſt as well ſuppoſe, or go about to prove by the ſame medium of ſimilitude of names, that the Biſhop's couſin John Wykeham and the famous John Wykliff were one and the ſame perſon.

This is enough to ſatisfy any one that is not poſſeſſed with the ſame ſpirit with Mr. Bohun. However, it will be eaſy to demonſtrate by matter of fact and the hiſtory of each of them, that Alice Perrers and Alice Perot were two different perſons. Perrers was the family name of the former Alice: ſhe [7] continued unmarried

[7] Mr. Carte, who, after the example of Barnes, undertakes the defence of this Lady's honour, is miſtaken in affirming, that ſhe was actually married to Sir William Wyndeſore in Edward the Third's time; which is his principal argument in her favour. That ſhe was not married to him till after the firſt Parliament of Richard the Second is plain from hence, that hitherto ſhe is called in the Parliament Rolls Alice Perrers; afterwards, Alice the wife of Sir William de Wyndeſore, late called Alice Perrers. Rot. Parl. 2. R. 2. and 8. R. 2. As alſo in the following Record: "Bona Aliciæ uxoris dilecti noſtri Wilhelmi de Wynde-"ſore Chivaler nobis foris facta virtute judicii contra prædict. "Aliciam per nomen Aliciæ Perrers in Parl. an. reg. 1."—— MS. Rymer. R. 2. vol. 2. N° 139.

till

till after the firſt Parliament of Richard the Second, when ſhe became the wife of Sir William de Wyndeſore, who had been Lieutenant of Ireland in the end of Edward the Third's time, and in whoſe behalf ſhe had influenced the King to reverſe an order of Council, which was one of the articles of the charge brought againſt her in Parliament. Sir William de Wyndeſore died [8] in the year 1384, leaving no iſſue by her: ſhe lived, and continued a widow, till the latter end of Richard the Second's time; [9] after which we hear no more of her. The [1] family name of the other Alice, the daughter of Agnes, Wykeham's ſiſter, was Chawmpeneys; ſhe was married to William Perot ſome years before the death of Edward the Third; for John the youngeſt of her three ſons was admitted Fellow of New College Oxford in the year 1395; and ſo was born probably about the end of Edward the Third's, or the beginning of Richard the Second's reign: and her eldeſt ſon William was married

[8] The probate of the will of Sir William Wyndeſore is dated Sep. 19, 1384. His will is nuncupative; he does not ſo much as mention his wife in it, whoſe eſtates, I ſuppoſe, had been ſecured to her before; and only makes ſome bequeſts to his brother's ſons; from whence I conclude he had no iſſue. Regiſt. Wykeham. part 3. b. fol. 62.

[9] See Cotton's Abridgment, 21. R. 2.

[1] See Appendix, N° I. III. IV. & XVIII.

in

in the year 1396, with the Biſhop's approbation, and was at leaſt of full age, probably ſome years above. She and her huſband William Perot were both alive, and appeared in the Court of King's Bench, in the eleventh year of Henry the Fourth. All which particulars of undoubted matter of fact being laid together and compared, it appears to be utterly impoſſible, that the ſaid two Alices, even though their ſurnames were really the ſame, could be one and the ſame perſon.

So much for Archbiſhop Parker's conjecture, of which Mr. Behun has made ſuch good uſe. In the remaining part of the ſame paragraph, he has confounded all hiſtory; he has united the Prince of Wales and Duke of Lancaſter in oppoſition to Wykeham and Alice Perrers; whereas it was the Prince of Wales and Wykeham againſt the Duke of Lancaſter and Alice Perrers: he makes the Prince of Wales one of Wickliff's favourers, though he died almoſt a year before Wickliff's affair came in queſtion: he ſays, that Wykeham and Alice Perrers were removed from Court together, whereas it is certain that Wykeham was removed in conſequence of Alice Perrers being reinſtated in her power there. "But before the removal of "Wykeham and Alice could be effected," (it was not before the actual removal of Alice; it

was

was before the removal of Wykeham was attempted or thought of) "the Prince of Wales "died, ſuſpected of being poiſoned by a zealot "againſt hereſy, or one of Alice's agents." Though Wykeham never diſtinguiſhed himſelf as a zealot againſt hereſy, nor was ever before ſuſpected of being one of Alice's agents, yet every one ſees that this impudent inſinuation is aimed at him. But the abſurdity of this writer is equal even to his malice, and very happily counterworks the effects of it. Beſide that there never was any ſuſpicion of the Prince of Wales's being poiſoned, it is notorious, that he was ſeized with the diſeaſe, which irrecoverably deſtroyed his conſtitution, in his expedition into Spain, ten years before his death; that he did not return to England till three or four years after that expedition, when he was quite diſabled from attending to his affairs in Acquitaine, and his caſe was in a manner deſperate: that in England, except that in the year after his return he ſeemed to be for a little while ſomewhat better, his diſtemper gradually increaſed, and, though later than was expected, brought him at length to his grave. Would this libeller ſuppoſe, that one of Alice's agents poiſoned the Prince ſo long before in Spain? or at laſt, and at home, when he was otherwiſe viſibly dying? Why ſhould we ſuppoſe

it

it done by a zealot againſt hereſy, when the Prince was never in the leaſt ſuſpected of favouring heretics? But the reader muſt by this time think, that I preſume too much on his patience, in imagining, that he will accompany me in an examination in detail of ſuch an incoherent collection of falſhood and ſlander. For what remains therefore, relating to the accuſation brought againſt Wykeham by the Duke of Lancaſter at the end of Edward the Third's reign, and the report of the Queen's confeſſion to him upon her death-bed, I ſhall refer him to what I have already ſaid upon thoſe heads; and ſhall only add in brief, that Mr. Bohun not writing from hiſtory, where he knew that what he wanted could not be found, but from his own head, miſtakes Queen Iſabel Edward the Third's mother for Queen Phillippa his wife: that what he ſays of the Prelates and the Clergy, or Wykeham and his Clergy, proſtituting their pulpits to defame the Duke of Lancaſter, is purely an invention of his own: and that the next three paragraphs are of the ſame kind, utterly deſtitute of all manner of foundation, and contain not ſo much as one word of truth. The Duke of Lancaſter was never conſtituted Protector of the King and kingdom; no new proſecution was ever commenced againſt Wykeham; no one circumſtance

ſtance of all that he relates in conſequence of it ever exiſted; Wykeham was not Chancellor in the Parliament of the twelfth year of Richard the Second, nor in the firſt year of the ſame reign, when his pardon was paſſed; nor had either of the Acts of Parliament, which he has made the chief ground-work of his ſlanders upon Wykeham, any the leaſt relation to him or his affairs.

Thus much may fully ſuffice for the Engliſh Lawyer: but we have not yet quite done with the Annotator on Bacon. Not content with having in his firſt performance accuſed Wykeham of being pandar to the King; of proſtituting his own niece, or ſiſter, or *&c*; of poiſoning the Prince of Wales; all monſtrous calumnies of his own diabolical invention; which one would have thought muſt have been by this time exhauſted; he has now another charge to bring againſt him, and that of no leſs a crime than forging an Act of Parliament. "This pretended Statute" (Stat. 2. chap. 5. 5 R 2. againſt heretics) "ſeems to have been "formed by the artifice of Biſhop Wykeham, "then Chancellor, and by him ſhuffled in "amongſt the Rolls of Parliament." He makes no ſcruple of grounding an accuſation of the moſt flagitious crime upon the ſlighteſt ſurmiſe.

ſurmiſe. You ſee, the whole force of the proof ariſes from that one circumſtance of Wykeham's being then Chancellor. But could any one imagine, that the man could poſſibly have the impudence to ſay this, when he muſt know, that his reader would find by the firſt chronicle he turned to, that Wykeham was not Chancellor within ſeven years of this time? I ſhall not enter into a diſcuſſion of this affair, ſince it nowiſe concerns Wykeham. Our author borrowed the accuſation of Lord Coke; he has only by a ſmall ſlight of hand transferred it from one perſon to another. Lord Coke[2] charges the inrolling of the Statute, as a fraud, on Braybroke Biſhop of London, whom he ſuppoſes to have been at that time Chancellor: but a late[3] worthy ſucceſſor of his in that ſee has very well defended him againſt this imputation, upon the ſuppoſition, that he was indeed then Chancellor; whereas[4] in truth Braybroke was not then Chancellor, but Richard Le Scrope a Layman.

[2] 3. Inſt. chap. 5.

[3] See Biſhop Gibſon's Codex, p. 327. 2d Edition.

[4] The Parliament of 5. R. 2. finiſhed its ſeſſion on Feb. 25, 1381-2. Wake, State of the Church, pag. 313. The writ to the Sheriff for proclamation of the Acts of that Parliament, and of this Statute among the reſt, is dated May 26. following. Seat. at large. Braybroke did not receive the Great Seal till September 20. afterwards. Rymer's Fœdera, Vol. 7. p. 362.

I have

I have now fairly laid before the reader every thing that I can find, which has been at any time alleged to the diſcredit of Wykeham: much of it of that ſort, which nothing but the obſcurity, in which all private and perſonal hiſtory of thoſe times lies involved, and the confidence, that any charge of this kind boldly affirmed would not eaſily admit of a direct confutation, could have encouraged the moſt determined malice to utter. But notwithſtanding theſe diſadvantages, I hope I have ſet every thing material in ſo clear a light, as to leave no room for doubt in any unprejudiced mind: it would have been enough, to have ſhewn, that theſe allegations are all deſtitute of proof; I think I have demonſtrated their falſity. I ſhall only add, that, from the experience, which I have had in my inquiries into this ſubject, I am fully purſuaded, that the reputation and character of Wykeham will always gain by being accurately examined, and fully laid open; that, whatever new diſcoveries may be made in the general hiſtory of his time, or whatever unexpected lights may be thrown upon his particular affairs, they will all tend to advance his honour; and that nothing but evidence and truth is required to ſet forth his life and actions to the greateſt advantage.

APPENDIX.

N° I.

E Veteri Regiſtro Coll. Winton.

ALICIA, quæ fuit ſoror Johannis Longe patris Domini Wilhelmi Wykeham Epiſcopi Wynton & fundatoris iſtius Collegii, deſponſata fuit Johanni Archemore, ex quibus proceſſerunt tredecim filiæ, quarum una vocabatur Emma, mater Johannæ Warner & Wilhelmi Carpenter.

Altera vocabatur Margeria, mater Edithæ Ryngeborne & Iſabellæ Mavyle & Johannis Rokle.

Altera vocabatur Alicia, mater Roberti Mavyle de Strata Hyde Wynt.

Altera vocabatur Matilda, ex qua proceſſit Agnes adhuc vivens in Weſt-Stratton, ex qua proceſſit Johanna deſponſata Johanni Bolne in Com. Suſſex.

Altera vocabatur Johanna, mater Zelotæ quæ morabatur apud Weſtmeone.

Agnes Chawmpeneys, ſoror Domini Wilhelmi Wykeham fundatoris noſtri, fuit mater Aliciæ Perott, quæ Alicia fuit mater Thomæ Wykeham Militis.

Item ſecundum quoſdam Wilhelmus Stratton procreavit de Amicia Stratton, filia Domini de Stratton juxta Selborne, quatuor filios, Ricardum, Stephanum, Robertum, & Johannem, qui obierunt ſine liberis; ac etiam tres filias, ſcil. Aliciam, Julianam, & Alienoram.

Aliciam duxit Wilhelmus Bowade in uxorem, de qua habuit filiam nomine Sibillam, quam Johannes Longe duxit in uxorem, ex qua procreavit filium nomine Wilhelmum Epiſcopum Wint. & filiam nomine Agnetem, quæ Agnes habuit filiam nomine Aliciam, quam Wilhelmus Perott duxit in uxorem, ex qua procreavit tres filios, Wilhelmum, Johannem, & Thomam,

mortuos nunc; qui Thomas vocabatur Wykeham Miles, & duxit in uxorem filiam Wilhelmi Wylkecys Armig. de qua procreavit filios & filias.

Julianam Amitam matris Fundatoris duxit Ricardus Boteſle in uxorem, de qua habuit filiam nomine Emmam, quam Ricardus Benet duxit in uxorem, de qua habuit filium nomine Ricardum.

Alienoram Amitam matris Fundatoris duxit in uxorem Ricardus Kerſwell de Stokebrigg, de qua procreavit filiam nomine Elizabetham, quam Rog. Goryng de Sarum duxit in uxorem, de qua habuit filiam nomine Johannam.

Item ſecundum alios Johannes Longe pater Fundatoris habuit fratrem nomine Henricum Aas, qui Henricus Aas habuit tres filios Wilhelmum, Ricardum, & Radulphum: Radulphus iſte habuit filium nomine Wilhelmum, & tres filias, s. Feliciam olim Abbatiſſam de Romeſeye.

N° II.

Ex Originali in Archivis Coll. Wint.

HÆC indentura facta inter Reverendum in Chriſto Patrem & Dominum Dominum Wilhelmum de Wikeham permiſſione divina Epiſcopum Wynton. ex parte una, & Nicholaum de Wikeham, Archidiaconum Wiltes, Johannem de Wikeham Perſonam Eccleſiæ de Crundale, Johannem de Campeden, & Wilhelmum Ryngeborne, ex parte altera, teſtatur quod dicti Nicholaus & Johannes de Wikeham, Johannes de Campeden, & Wilhelmus Ryngeborne, per præſentes conceſſerunt & dimiſerunt dicto Domino Epiſcopo maneria ſua de Burnham & Brene in Com. Somerſ. cum omnibus ſuis pertinent. habendum & tenendum dicta maneria eidem Domino Epiſcopo ad totam vitam ſuam: ita quod poſt mortem dicti domini Epiſcopi, prædicta maneria de Burnham & Brene cum ſuis pertinent. integra remaneant Wilhelmo Wikeham conſanguineo dicti Domini Epiſcopi & Aliciæ Uvedale, & hæredibus maſculis de corpore ipſius Wilhelmi conſanguinei legitime procreatis: Ita quod ſi contingat dictum

dictum Wilhelmum Wikeham consanguineum dicti Domini Episcopi sine hærede masculo de corpore suo legitime procreato obire, quod ex tunc post mortem dictæ Aliciæ dicta maneria cum omnibus suis pertinent. integra remaneant Thomæ Wikeham fratri ejusdem Wilhelmi consanguinei & hæredibus masculis ipsius Thomæ de corpore suo legitime procreatis: Et si contingat quod idem Thomas frater Wilhelmi obierit sine hærede masculo de corpore suo legitime procreato, tunc post decessum ipsius Thomæ prædicta maneria cum pertinent. integre remaneant Johanni de Wikeham fratri ejusdem Thomæ fratris Wilhelmi, & hæredibus masculis de corpore suo procreatis: Et si contingat quod idem Johannes Wikeham obierit sine hærede masculo de corpore suo procreato, tunc post decessum ipsius Johannis dicta maneria cum pertinent. integre remaneant hæredibus prædicti Wilhelmi consanguinei de corpore suo procreatis: Et si nullus hæres de corpore ipsius Wilhelmi consanguinei fuerit procreatus, tunc prædicta maneria cum pertinent. integre remaneant hæredibus prædicti Thomæ Wikeham de corpore suo procreatis: Et si nullus hæres de corpore ipsius Thomæ fuerit procreatus, tunc prædicta maneria cum pertinent. integre remaneant Thomæ Warenner & Johannæ uxori ejus, & hæredibus masculis ipsius Johannæ de corpore suo procreatis: Et si contingat quod eadem Johanna obierit sine hærede masculo de corpore suo procreato, tunc post decessum ipsorum Thomæ Warenner & Johannæ prædicta maneria cum pertinent. remaneant Wilhelmo Ryngeborne & Edithæ uxori ejus, & hæredibus masculis ipsius Edithæ de corpore suo procreatis: Et si contingat quod eadem Editha obierit sine hærede masculo de corpore suo procreato, tunc post decessum ipsorum Wilhelmi Ryngeborne & Edithæ, prædicta maneria cum pertinent. integre remaneant Agneti uxori nuper Guidonis Ayno, & hæredibus masculis ipsius Agnetis de corpore suo procreatis: Et si contingat quod eadem Agnes obierit sine hærede masculo de corpore suo procreato, tunc post decessum dictæ Agnetis sine exitu hujusmodi, prædicta maneria cum pertinent. integre remaneant Wilhelmo Maviell & Isabellæ uxori ejus, & hæredibus masculis ipsius Isabellæ: Et si contingat quod eadem Isabella obierit sine hærede

maſculo de corpore ſuo procreato, tunc poſt deceſſum ipſorum Wilhelmi Maviell & Iſabellæ prædicta maneria cum pertinent. integre remaneant Johanni Beneyt de Bottele & hæredibus maſculis de corpore ſuo procreatis: Et ſi contingat quod idem Johannes Beneyt obierit ſine hærede maſculo de corpore ſuo procreato, tunc poſt deceſſum ipſius Johannis prædicta maneria cum pertinent. integre remaneant hæredibus prædictæ Johannæ de corpore ſuo procreatis: Et ſi nullus hæres de corpore ipſius Johannæ fuerit procreatus, tunc prædicta maneria cum pertinent. integre remaneant hæredibus prædictæ Edithæ de corpore ſuo procreatis; Et ſi nullus hæres de corpore ipſius Edithæ fuerit procreatus, tunc prædicta maneria cum ſuis pertinent. integre remaneant hæredibus prædictæ Agnetis de corpore ſuo procreatis: Et ſi nullus hæres de corpore ipſius Agnetis fuerit procreatus, tunc prædicta maneria cum ſuis pertinent. integre remaneant hæredibus prædictæ Iſabellæ de corpore ſuo procreatis: Et ſi nullus hæres de corpore ipſius Iſabellæ fuerit procreatus, tunc predicta maneria cum ſuis pertinent. integre remaneant hæredibus prædicti Johannis Beneyt de corpore ſuo procreatis: Et ſi nullus hæres de corpore ipſius Johannis Beneyt fuerit procreatus, tunc predicta maneria cum ſuis pertinent. integre remaneant rectis hæredibus dicti Domini Epiſcopi in perpetuum. Proviſo ſemper quod ſi ſponſalia inter dictos Wilhelmum Wikeham conſanguineum & Aliciam Uvedale non celebrentur citra feſtum Sancti Michaelis Archangeli proximum futurum, quod extunc bene liceat dictis, Nicholao de Wikeham, Johanni de Wikeham, Johanni de Campeden, & Wilhelmo Ryngeborne, dicta maneria cum ſuis pertinent. reintrare & in priſtino ſtatu eorum retinere imperpetuum. In cujus rei teſtimonium his indenturis partes prædictæ figilla ſua alternatim appoſuerunt. Dat. primo die Julii anno regni Regis Ricardi Secundi viceſimo.

Nicholaus Wykeham L. S.	Johannes Wykeham L. S.	Johannes Campedene L. S.	Wilhelmus Ringeburne L. S.

N° III.

N° III.

E Libro H. Coll. Wint. fol. 157.

PLACITA apud Weſtm. coram Wilhelmo Thirnyng & ſoc. ſuis Juſticiariis Domini Regis de Banco, Term. Hillar. anno Reg. Hen. Quarti poſt Conq. undecimo.

——Et prædictus cuſtos [Coll. Wint.] dicit quod quondam Wilhelmus de Wykeham, nuper Epiſcopus Wynt. conſanguineus prædictæ Aliciæ Perot, videlicet frater Agnetis matris ipſius Aliciæ, cujus hæres ipſa eſt, nuper fuit ſeiſitus de prædicto manerio [de Elynge]——& dedit, conceſſit, & carta ſua confirmavit, Cuſtodi & Scholaribus ejuſdem Collegii prædictum manerium——& petit quod dicti Wilhelmus Perot & Alicia prædictum manerium de Elynge cum pertinentibus eidem Cuſtodi ex cauſa prædicta warentizent, &c. Et prædictus Wilhelmus Perot & Alicia non poſſunt dedicere——quin eadem Alicia ſit conſanguinea & hæres ipſius Epiſcopi in forma prædicta, & gratis præfato Cuſtodi prædictum manerium de Elynge cum pertinentibus virtute cartæ prædictæ warentizant.

N° IV.

E Finalibus Recordis in Communi Banco de termino Trinitatis 20 R. 2. Citat. à T. Martin. in Vita Gul. Wicami, lib. 1. cap. 1.

HÆC eſt finalis concordia facta in curia Domini Regis, &c. in octabis Sanctæ Trinitatis anno regni Richardi Regis viceſimo, coram Wilhelmo Thirninge, &c. inter Wilhelmum Wickham filium Wilhelmi Perott & Aliciam uxorem ejus querentes, & Wilhelmum de Wickham Epiſcopum Winton. Magiſtrum Nicholaum de Wickham Clericum & Johannem Campeden Clericum deforciat. de manerio de Ottarburne, &c.—— Et ſi contingat quod idem Wilhelmus Wickham filius Wilhelmi Perott obierit ſine hærede maſculo, de corpore ſuo procreato,

tunc

tunc poſt deceſſum ipſorum Wilhelmi & Aliciæ uxoris ejus, prædicta manerium & tenementa cum pertinentiis integre remanebunt Thomæ Wickham fratri ejuſdem Wilhelmi Wickham filii Wilhelmi Perott, & hæredibus maſculis de corpore ſuo procreatis.

N° V.

E Regiſtro Wykeham. Part. I. fol. 1.

Bulla Urbani Papæ Quinti ſuper adminiſtratione Eccleſiæ Wynton.

URBANUS Epiſcopus ſervus ſervorum Dei dilecto filio Wilhelmo de Wykeham Archidiacono Lincoln. adminiſtratori in ſpiritualibus & temporalibus Eccleſiæ Wynton. Salutem & Apoſtolicam Benedictionem. Regimini univerſalis eccleſiæ quanquam inſufficientibus meritis diſponente Domino præſidentes de univerſis orbis eccleſiis pro earum ſtatu ſalubriter dirigendo quantum nobis ex alto conceditur ſolicite cogitamus, ſed eo propenſius ſolicitudo nos urget, ut eccleſiis illis quæ ſuis ſunt deſtitutæ paſtoribus, ne in ſpiritualibus & temporalibus detrimenta ſuſtineant, de ſalubri remedio, prout ipſarum eccleſiarum ac locorum & temporum qualitas exigit, conſulamus: dudum ſiquidem bonæ memoriæ Wilhelmo Epiſcopo Wyntonienſi, regimini Wynton. Eccleſiæ præſidente, nos cupientes eidem Wynton. eccleſiæ cum vacaret per ſedis (f. *apoſtolicæ*) providentiam utilem & idoneam præeſſe perſonam proviſionem ipſius eccleſiæ ordinationi & diſpoſitioni noſtræ duximus ea vice ſpecialiter reſervandum, decernentes ex tunc irritum & inane ſi ſecus ſuper his per quoſcunque quavis auctoritate ſcienter vel ignoranter contingeret attemptari. Cum itaque poſtmodum dicta eccleſia per obitum dicti Wilhelmi Epiſcopi, qui extra Romanam curiam debitum naturæ perſolvit, vacaverit, & vacet ad præſens, nos eidem eccleſiæ, de cujus proviſione nullus præter nos hac vice ſe intromittere potuerit neque poteſt reſervatione & decreto obſiſtentibus ſupradictis, ut feliciter gubernetur ejuſque bona & jura a pravorum manibus defenſentur,

cupientes

cupientes providere, ac ſperantes, quod tu apud nos de literarum ſcientia, vitæ ac morum honeſtate, ſpiritualium providentia, & temporalium circumſpectione, fide dignis teſtimoniis multipliciter commendatus, id ſcias & poteris ſalubriter adimplere, de fratrum noſtrorum conſilio adminiſtratorem dictæ eccleſiæ uſque ad apoſtolicæ ſedis beneplac'tum, ordinamus, conſtituimus, & deputamus, adminiſtrationem plenam generalem & liberam ejuſdem eccleſiæ ac bonorum & jurium ejuſdem tam in ſpiritualibus quam in temporalibus plenarie committentes, ut dictam Wyntonien. eccleſiam tuæ adminiſtrationi commiſſam ſpiritualiter & temporaliter, ſtatutis provincialibus ſeu conſuetudinibus provinciæ Cantuarien. & illis præſertim quibus caveri dicitur quod eccleſiis cathedralibus provinciæ Cantuarien, vacantibus Archiepiſcopus Cantuar. pro tempore exiſtens in ipſis eccleſiis ſic vacantibus ſpiritualia exerceat, & aliis contrariis non obſtantibus quibuſcunque, juxta datam tibi a Deo prudentiam, regas dirigas & augmentes, ac etiam canonicatus & præbendas, dignitates, perſonatus, officia & alia quæcumque beneficia eccleſiaſtica ſecularia & regularia ad collationem Epiſcopi Wynton. pro tempore exiſtentis pertinentia, cum vacabunt, conferas & de ipſis provideas, nec non de fructibus, redditibus, proventibus, juribus, & obventionibus univerſis ad menſam Wyntonien. ſpectantibus ordinare & diſponere valeas, prout veri Epiſcopi Wynton. qui fuerint pro tempore de illis ordinare & diſponere potuerunt ac etiam debuerunt, alienatione quorumlibet immobilium & pretioſorum mobilium ejuſdem eccleſiæ tibi penitus interdicta. Tu igitur circa ejuſdem eccleſiæ Wynton. regimen & adminiſtrationem ſolicite & fideliter exercenda te ſic exhibeas ſtudioſum, quod eccleſia ipſa, divina tibi favente clementia, ſub adminiſtratione tua provida & ſalubri votivis continue in ſpiritualibus & temporalibus amplietur commodis & ſalubribus proficiat incrementis, noſque per tuæ circumſpectionis & diligentiæ ſtudium fructuoſum dignis te poſſimus in Domino laudibus merito commendare. Dat Avinion. iii. Id. Decembr. Pontificat. noſtri anno quinto.

N° VI.

N° VI.

E Regiſtro Wykeham, Part. tert. a. fol. 135.

Bulla Domini Papæ directa Domino Epiſcopo Wyntonien.

GREGORIUS Epiſcopus ſervus ſervorum Dei venerabili fratri Epiſcopo Wyntonien. Salutem & Apoſtolicam benedictionem. Nuper gratanter accepimus qualiter cariſſimi in Chriſto filii noſtri Edwardus Angliæ & Carolus Francorum Reges illuſtres ambaxiatores ſuos ſolennes pro tractatu pacis inter ipſos Reges dante Domino peragendæ Brugis deſtinarunt, ac eidem Regi Angliæ ſuper hoc ſcribimus eum ad bonam pacem gratioſe exhortando: verum cum hujuſmodi pacis negotium inter cætera nobis incumbentia, prout novit altiſſimus, & alias tibi ſcripſimus, cordi nec immerito habeamus, & dubitemus, ſi tractatus hujuſmodi quod abſit rumperetur, quod peccatis exigentibus tarde vel nunquam inter dictos Reges pax reſurgeret peroptata, ac in præmiſſis favor tuus ſit plurimum opportunus, fraternitatem tuam nobis caram rogamus & hortamur attente, quatenus pro noſtra & apoſtolicæ ſedis reverentia & etiam tuæ ſalutis intuitu apud eundem Regem Angliæ, quod noſtris in hac parte precibus annuat, opem des prout plene confidimus & operam efficaces. Præterea cum pro relevandis oneribus expenſarum nobis & Romanæ eccleſiæ, ut nos & ipſam Romanam eccleſiam ejuſque jura & bona in partibus Italiæ ab invadentium manibus defendamus eorumque reſiſtamus injuriis & jacturis, incumbentium, ad quos ſufficere non poſſumus, in Franciæ & Iſpaniæ regnis nec non in Alamanio aliiſque partibus fidelium perſonis eccleſiaſticis certa ſubſidia duxerimus imponenda, quæ quidem perſonæ eccleſiaſticæ in hijs nobis prout tenebantur, quamvis propter guerras & alias cauſas multiplicibus oneribus fatigatæ eſſent, pro majori parte paruerunt; ac clero regni Angliæ, qui in redditibus habundat, & quod quidem regnum favente Domino in ſe guerris non conturbatur, certum moderatum ſubſidium, prout alias tibi ſcripſimus, duxerimus imponendum, quod tamen nondum extitit perſolutum: noſque & dicta

Romana

Romana ecclesia, tam propter præmissas quam alias rationabiles causas devotorum subsidiis plus solito egeamus de præsenti, eandem fraternitatem tuam, quam in adimplendis votis nostris promptam semper invenimus & paratam, ut carius possumus deprecamur, quatenus pro nostra & apostolicæ sedis reverentia, & sicut nobis placere desideras, hujusmodi clerum Angliæ ad solvendum prædictum subsidium viis & modis quibus poteris inducere non postponas. Dilectum siquidem filium Arnaldum Garnerii Canonicum Cathalaunen. licentiatum in legibus in regno Angliæ apostolicæ sedis nuncium, & fructuum & proventuum ibidem cameræ apostolicæ debitorum collectorem, cui aliqua tibi referenda commisimus, & quem una cum juribus prædictæ cameræ nostræ recommendamus, ad partes illas destinamus, cui fidem indubiam adhibeas in dicendis. Dat Avinion, xiii Kal. April. pont. nostri anno quinto.

N° VII.

E Registro Wykeham. Part. tert. a. fol. 98.

Instrumentum super conventione inter Episcopum Wynton. & Richardum de Herton Grammaticum.

IN Dei nomine Amen, Anno ab Incarnatione Domini secundum cursum & computationem Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ Millesimo Trecentesimo Septuagesimo Tertio, indictione undecima, Mensis Septembris die prima, Pontificatus Sanctissimi in Christo patris & Domini nostri Domini Gregorii divina providentia Papæ undecimi anno tertio, constitutus personaliter coram Reverendo Patre Domino Wilhelmo Dei gratia Wynton. Episcopo in aula manerii sui de Merewell Wynton. Dioceseos, in mei Notarii Publici & Testium subscriptorum præsentia, Venerabilis & discretus vir Magister Richardus de Herton Grammaticus certam conventionem cum eodem Domino Wynton. Episcopo fecit iniit & firmavit sub hac forma; videlicet, quod idem Richardus per decem annos incipiendo in festo Sancti Michaelis proximo futuro instruet & informabit sub hac forma pauperes

Scolares quos dictus Dominus Epiſcopus ſuis ſumptibus exhibet & exhibebit fideliter & diligenter in arte grammatica & nullos alios ſine licentia dicti patris ad doctrinam hujuſmodi recipiet per tempus prædictum: excepit tamen tempus infirmitatis ſuæ, & tempus quo curiam Romanam ſemel viſitabit ſuis propriis ſumptibus, & per idem tempus alium virum ſufficientem & idoneum pro doctrina dictorum Scolarium ſubſtituet loco ſuo. Ad hæc convenit cum dicto Patre, quod idem Pater inveniet & exhibebit ſibi unum alium virum idoneum qui eum poterit adjuvare in labore diſciplinæ Scolarium prædictorum: hæc promiſit firmiter idem Magiſter Richardus cum omni diligentia perficere & implere & ſuper firmitate illius conventionis tenendæ & ſervandæ idem Magiſter Richardus [per] manum ſuam dextram in manu dextra dicti patris expreſſe poſuit & dedit fidem ſuam ad præmiſſa omnia perficienda in forma ſupradicta. Acta ſunt hæc anno indictione menſe die pontificatu & loco prænotatis, præſentibus diſcretis viris Magiſtris Johanne de Bukyngham Canonico Ebor. & Domino Johanne de Campeden Canonico Eccleſiæ Suwellen. Ebor. Dioc. & Henrico de Thorp ac Johanne de Kolleſeye Notariis Publicis apoſtolicis, teſtibus ad præmiſſa vocatis ſpecialiter & rogatis.

N° VIII.

E Regiſtro Wykeham. Part. tert. b. fol. 74.
Littera viſitandi Scolares & Collegium Oxoniæ.

WILHELMUS permiſſione divina Wyntonien. Epiſcopus Collegii Sanctæ Mariæ Wynton. in Oxonia Fundator pariter & Patronus, dilectis nobis in Chriſto venerabilibus viris Magiſtris Thomæ de Southam, Archidiacono Oxon. in Eccleſia Lincoln. ac Nicholao de Wykeham Archid. Wiltes. in Eccleſia Sar. Salutem in amplexibus Salvatoris. Relacione fide dignorum audita ſtupor non modicus invaſit ſubito mentem noſtram, dum in vinea noſtra quam plantavimus deficientibus avis ſuccreſcant labruſcæ, palmites quoque quas ſperabamus fructiferas amaricato germine in ſpuria vitulamina convertantur.

Accepimus

Accepimus namque tale inter Scolares noſtri Collegii ſupradicti qui de noſtra vivunt elemoſina corrupcionis piaculum irrepſiſſe, quod ipſi ſuæ condicionis & quietis propriæ pauliſper obliti, generis ad genus, nobilitatis ad ignobilitatem, ſcientiæ ad ſcientiam, facultatis ad facultatem, patriæ ad patriam, & alias comparaciones quæ odioſæ ſunt faciunt inſolenter contra doctrinam Apoſtoli acceptores perſonarum effecti; alii præterea ſuperſticione prophana colla ſua in ſublime alcius erigentes, dum refectionis gratia conveniunt ad menſam ſibi vendicant loca primá præceptum dominicum minime amplectentes, dicentis, Qui major eſt inter vos fiat ſicut junior, & qui præceſſor fiat ſicut miniſter. Nonnulli quoque ipſorum inſolentiis aliis quas numerare non decet, ſet nec committere licet, a veræ virtutis tramite deviantes exhibent ſe frequenter. Unde in ipſo noſtro Collegio inter Scolares prædictos diſſenciones contenciones & ſcandala oriuntur & quod dolenter referimus quæ noſtræ mentis intentio Dei paravit ad gloriam tendunt ad noxam. Ex quibus divina provocatur mageſtas, dictumque noſtrum Collegium, utpote in ſuis membris nequiter viciatum grave patitur detrimentum in pernicioſum exemplum & ſcandalum plurimorum. Nolentes itaque dictum noſtrum Collegium tantis fedari maculis, quin potius cupientes firmiſſime ut omnis ab ipſo eliminetur ſpurcitia, quodque Scolares prædicti, viciorum ſentibus extirpatis, virtutibus illuſtrentur, doctrinis ſacris efficaciter adhæreant & miliciæ clericali: Ad inquirendum igitur tam in genere quam in ſpecie de & ſuper criminibus & exceſſibus omnium & ſingulorum Scolarium noſtri Collegii memorati & quos in præmiſſis aut eorum aliquo vel aliis exceſſibus gravibus ſeu criminibus culpabiles reperitis, ipſos cujuſcunque gradus ſtatus vel condicionis exiſtant, a dicto noſtro Collegio perpetuo expellend. niſi de ipſorum correccione celeri & morum in ea parte reformacione ſalubri ſpes fuerit ac vobis ſignanter apparuerit; tunc enim exceſſus hujuſmodi & crimina ſicut pro ipſius honore ac conſervatione ſtatus dicti noſtri Collegii videritis expedire, corrigend. & acrius puniend. Cætera inſuper quæ in ipſo noſtro Collegio reformatione indigent, debite reformand. omniaque alia & ſingula quæ in præmiſſis & circa ea neceſſaria fuerint, vel

quomodolibet opportuna, cum eorum incidentibus emergentibus dependentibus & connexis faciend. & etiam exercend. Vobis, de quorum fidelitate conſcientiæ puritate ac circumſpectionis induſtria plene confidimus, tenore præſentium committimus vices noſtras cum cohercionis & executionis in hac parte debitæ poteſtate. Dat. in Caſtro noſtro de Farnham vigeſimo octavo die menſis September. Anno Domini Milleſimo Trecenteſimo Octogeſimo Quinto. et noſtræ Conſecrationis anno decimo Octavo.

N° IX.

E Regiſtro Wykeham, Part. tert. b. fol. 77.
Litera tangens Collegium Oxon.

WILHELMUS permiſſione divina Wynton. Epiſcopus, Fundator & Patronus Col. ſanctæ Mariæ Wyntoniæ in Oxonia, dilecto nobis in Chriſto Cuſtodi dicti noſtri Collegii Salutem in omnipotente Salvatore. Relacione didicimus fide digna, quod nonnulli dicti noſtri Collegii Socii Magiſtri Artium, qui licet formam lecturæ in artium facultate in Univerſitate Oxoniæ ſtatutam ac etiam requiſitam compleverint, nec non per unum annum ultra formam eandem in facultate prædicta lecturam continuaverint, ipſi tamen contra ordinaciones noſtras & ſtatuta per nos edita & debite promulgata, nec non eiſdem a multis retroactis temporibus ſæpius divulgata, lecturæ hujuſmodi continuo intendentes ad facultatem theologiæ ſeu aſtronomiæ juxta ordinaciones & ſtatuta noſtra prædicta ſe convertere hactenus non curarunt, quodque ipſi & alii ſocii nonnulli noſtri Collegii memorati per vicos & plateas infra Univerſitatem publice incedentes chimeris vel tabardis ſuperius minime induuntur contra ordinaciones & ſtatuta ſuperius memorata: Cum igitur ſic noſtræ intencionis exiſtat, quod Magiſtri Artium dicti noſtri Collegii, completis forma & anno prædictis, ad theologiæ ſeu aſtronomiæ facultatem illico ſe convertant, quodque ipſi & alii ſocii quicumque noſtri Collegii ſupradicti cum extra dictum noſtrum Collegium infra Univerſitatem prædictam & etiam per

ſpacium

ſpacium miliaris circumquaque Univerſitatem eandem inceſſerint, capis chimeris vel tabardis longis & talaribus prout ipſorum gradubus & ſtatubus congruit & non aliis veſtibus ſuperius induantur: Vobis committimus & mandamus, quatenus ſtatim viſis præſentibus abſque moræ diſpendio Magiſtros Artium quoſcumque noſtri Collegii ſupradicti, qui formam & annum de quibus præmittitur compleverint, moneatis & efficaciter inducatis, quatenus a lectura & regimine in artium facultate ſtatim ſine mora ceſſent omnino, & ad theologiæ ſeu aſtronomiæ facultatem abſque moræ diſpendio effectualiter ſe convertant, & ſtudeant ac proficiant efficaciter in eadem; & quod ipſi & cæteri quicumque ſocii ſupradicti cum extra dictum noſtrum Collegium infra Univerſitatem & ſpacium ſupradictum inceſſerint chimeris capis vel longis tabardis prout eis congruit ſuperius induantur, niſi neceſſitate cogente aliud fuerit faciendum, juxta ordinaciones & ſtatuta noſtra prædicta. Contradictores vero & rebelles, aut monicionibus veſtris hujuſmodi ymmo verius (*noſtris*) effectualiter non parentes, a dicto noſtro Collegio perpetuo expellatis. Certificantes nos infra quatuor dierum ſpacium a tempore receptionis præſentium quid inveneritis & feceritis in præmiſſis. Dat. in manerio noſtro de Suthwerk vigeſimo die Maii, Anno Domini Milleſimo Trecenteſimo Octageſimo Sexto, et noſtræ Conſ. decimo nono.

N° X.

E Regiſtro Wyhebam. Part. tert. b. fol. 88.

Littera ut ydonei Scolares eligantur in Coll. Oxon. & Wynton. abſque partialitate aliqua.

SALUTEM cum benedictione Dei atque noſtra. Cariſſimi, mittimus ad vos Johannem Everad & Johannem Compton pauperes Clericulos de Capella noſtra ut in Collegium noſtrum Wynton. admittantur. Volumus igitur ut cum ipſi ad vos venerint ex hac cauſa in dictum noſtrum Collegium recipiatis eoſdem. Vobis præterea injungentes quatenus in eleccionibus

bûs apud Coll. noſtrum Wynt. jam proxime faciendis primo videlicet de Scholaribus ipſius noſtri Coll. Wynt. ad Coll. noſtrum Oxon. aſſumendis, ac deinde de Scolaribus aliis loco ipſorum in dictum noſtrum Coll. Wynt. eligendis taliter procedatis ut abſque prece aut precio favore vel amore ſeu partialitate quacumque, per vos tales præcipue in dictum noſtrum Coll. Oxon. eligantur qui in grammatica bene & ſufficienter fuerint eruditi, vitaque & moribus merito commendandi, & quos ſperaveritis in veſtris conſcientiis plus poſſe proficere & debere in Collegio noſtro Oxon. ſupradicto. Quodque in præfatum Coll. noſtrum Wynt. habiles & magis ydoneos eligatis de locis in noſtris Statutis limitatis. Ita tamen quod quatuor de paroch. de Broghton, & totidem de paroch. de Downton, ſi habiles & ydonei reperiantur, in dicta electione cæteris præferantur. Hoc inſuper proviſo, quod Scolares hujuſmodi in dictum noſtrum Coll. Wynt. aſſumendi in lectura & plano cantu ac in antiquo Donato inſtructi competenter exiſtant, ætatiſque ſuæ annum duodecimum non excedant, niſi taliter in grammatica prius fuerint informati, quod ante decimum nonum ætatis ſuæ annum in ipſa potuerint ſufficienter expediri, Statutis noſtris electionem dictorum Scolarium Oxon. & Wynton. concernentibus in omnibus ſemper ſalvis, ſuper quibus omnibus ipſas veſtras conſcientias apud Altiſſimum diſtrictius oneramus. Volentes præterea & ordinantes, quod Scolares dicti noſtri Coll. Wynton. ſingulis diebus dominicis & feſtivis ad eccleſiam parochialem Sancti Johannis ſuper montem accedant, quamdiu in dicta paroch. ipſos morari contigerit, ibidemque ad veſperas completor. matutinas & alias horas atque miſſas de die legenda & pſallenda cum nota & cantu more eccleſiaſtico legant atque pſallant devocius ſicut decet, quodque nullus hujuſmodi Scolarium a præmiſſis ſe abſentet niſi ex cauſa legitima per ipſorum Magiſtrum ſeu ejus Locumtenentem approbanda fuerit impeditus ſub pœna privationis communarum ſuarum per quindecim dies diem quo ſe abſque cauſa hujuſmodi legitima ſe abſentaverit immediate ſequentes. Volumus inſuper & vos, Magiſtri Nicholaë, Thoma Cranlegh, & Johannes de Ketone, attente rogamus quatenus Magiſtro Johanni de Melton dictorum Scolarium Magiſtro informatori

formatori & Johanni Seward ejus Vicefgerenti firmiter injungatis ut ipfi hæc omnia proxime fuperius recitata a dictis Scolaribus noftri Coll. Wint. de cætero realiter & debite faciant obfervari fub debito eorum juramenti nobis præftiti ab eifdem. Valete feliciter in Filio Virginis glorioſæ. Script. apud Eſthere octavo die menſis Aprilis. Dilecto conſanguineo noſtro Magiſtro Nicholao Wykeham Cuſtodi Coll. noſtri Oxon. & Magiſtris Thomæ Cranlegh Sacræ Paginæ Profeſſori, Domino Johanni Ketone, ac Johanni Melton.

N° XI.

E Regiſtro Wykeham, Part. tert. b. fol. 139.

Intimacio reſignacionis Thomæ Cranlegh, & quod Socii & Scolares procedant ad eleccionem novi Cuſtodis.

WILHELMUS de Wykeham permiſſione divina Wynton. Epiſcopus Coll. Beate Marie Wynton. in Oxon. Seinte Marie College of Wyncheſtre in Oxenford, vulgarit. nuncupat. Fundator & Patronus, Dilectis in Chriſto Filiis Sociis & Scolaribus ejuſdem Coll. univerſis Salutem in eo qui eſt omnium vera Salus. Vobis præſentibus noſtris literis intimamus, quod Magiſter Thomas Cranlegh nuper Cuſtos dicti Coll. noſtri, decimo quinto die præſentis menſis Febr. coram nobis in manerio noſtro de Waltham noſtræ dioc. officio cuſtodiæ Coll. ſupradicti ceſſit & voluntarie renunciavit, eo quod in obſequiis Domini noſtri Regis ipſum inſiſtere neceſſario oportebit: cujus ceſſionem ex cauſa prædicta admiſimus tunc ibidem. Ne igitur vacacio diutina dicti noſtri Coll. vobis in perſonis & rebus ſit grave diſpendium allatura, & ut præfatum noſtrum Coll. ſub boni Cuſtodis regimine protegatur a noxiis, ac pacis & caritatis affluat ubertate, Nos qui pro vobis intenta ſollicitudine vigilamus, quos etiam tanquam filios cariſſimos in vinculo dilectionis paternæ proſequimur, * tanta mente univerſitatem veſtram & devotionem monemus, & per viſcera miſericordiæ Dei noſtri ac

* Legendum *ita*, ut in ſimilibus locis in eodem Regiſtro.

per

per aſpercionem ſui precioſi ſanguinis, animarumque veſtrarum ſalutem, nec non ſub divini obteſtacione judicii obſecramur & in Domino exhortamur, ut in eleccione veſtri futuri Cuſtodis ſolum Deum ac communem Collegii prædicti utilitatem habentes præ oculis, omni privatæ affectionis & ſingularitatis vitio depoſito, & quibuſlibet paccionibus, convencionibus, promiſſionibus, obligationibus, juramentis & conventiculis illicitis, nec non condicti & intendimenti contemplacione ceſſantibus & omnino ſemotis, vos in vinculo pacis caritatis & concordiæ colligentes, cum omni ſollicitudine maturitate & deliberacione, juxta noſtrorum Statutorum exigenciam & tenorem, virum providum & diſcretum, literarum ſcientia moribus & virtuoſis actibus merito commendandum, in ſpiritualibus & temporalibus plurimum circumſpectum, talem viz. quem ſecundum Deum & veſtras conſcientias juſtas vacanti Coll. antedicto utiliorem & magis ydoneum eſſe crediderit, in Cuſtodem veſtrum puris & liberis mentibus abſque moræ diſpendio eligere ſtudeatis, qui vobis plus prodeſſe cupiat, quam præeſſe; ut per ejus vigilanciam ſollicitam probitatem & gubernacionem bonam, dictum Coll. noſtrum ad Dei honorem ac Cleri augmentum proſpere dirigi & votivis valeat commodis honorari; in præmiſſis taliter vos habentes, ut veràs ſcrutator cordium quem nichil latere poterit ex factis & geſtis veſtris in hac parte merito contentetur. Dat. in manerio noſtro de Suth-Waltham vigeſimo ſexto die menſis Febr. Anno Domini Milleſimo Trecenteſimo Nonageſimo Quinto, & noſtræ Conſ. anno vigeſimo nono.

N° XII.

Ex Originali in Archivis Regiſtrarii Archidiaconatus Winton.

DECRETUM Domini Wynton. Epiſcopi quoad Reſignationes tempore Supervifionis non admittendas.

CUM multæ quæſtiones & controverſiæ ortæ fuerint de tempore Supervifionis & Scrutinii in tertia Rubrica ſpecificato, a quo momento, hora, & articulo temporis, aut actione, idem

dem debeat & poſſit incipere ad effectum, ut poſt talem inceptionem Scholares in indenturis anni præcedentis nominati nullatenus vigore earundem in Coll. Winton. admittantur, vel tranſmittantur ad Coll. Winton. in Oxon. Idcirco Dominus Epiſcopus Winton. facta ei prius legitima intimatione per Cuſtodem & duos Socios Superviſores legitime electos ejuſdem Collegii in Oxon. Statutiſque Supervifionem concernentibus, una cum variis ambiguitatibus & incommodis propter incertitudinem inceptionis prædictæ, eidem domino Epiſcopo oſtenſis & declaratis, declaravit, hunc eſſe verum, germanum, & literalem ſenſum verborum & clauſulæ præfatorum; quod tempus ſupervifionis & ſcrutinii in dicta Rubric. mentionati tum demum debet incipere, atque adeo ad omnes effectus incipere cenſendum eſt, ubi primum advenerit, illuxeritque ille dies, qui in literis certificatoriis in dicta Rubr. ſpecificatis, & ad Cuſtodem Winton. miſſis, & per eundem in valvis eccleſiæ ſecundum tenorem Statuti præfixis, continetur, & deſignatur; ita quod neque toto illo die, neque poſtea aliquis, in indenturis iiſdem, ſcilicet anni præcedentis, nominatus & deſcriptus, vigore & virtute earundem aliquod jus vel beneficium ſit conſecuturus, nimirum ut admittatur in Coll. Winton. vel ad alterum Coll. tranſmittatur ullo modo. Et ulterius, cum ſaluberrimo hujus regni Statuto ſancitum ſit, ne quis locum habens in Collegiis, eundem lucri vel commodi alicujus gratia reſignet quovis modo, atque contra hoc ipſum Statutum multipliciter peccari & delinqui poſſe ſit vere-ſimillimum in grave ſcandalum Collegiorum dictorum, ſi reſignationes dictorum Scholarium loca habentium in Collegiis Winton. & Oxon. tempore ſupervifionis & ſcrutinii prædicto accipiantur & admittantur, & cum etiam ejuſmodi reſignationes nullo Statuto dictorum Collegiorum approbentur, idcirco Dominus Epiſcopus Winton. cupiens & affectans tam gravi ſcandalo occurrere tempeſtive, legitime interpellatus, decrevit & declaravit, quod nulla reſignatio quam dictorum Collegiorum Scholares tempore ſupervifionis ſic ſuperius declarato ſcribent, conficient, offerent, tradent, vel ſcribi, confici, offerri, vel tradi facient, aut conſentient, ullo modo in eo ipſo

tempore ſupervifionis prædictæ accipiatur, approbetur, † vel admittatur, ullis judicetur per Cuſtodes aut Vicecuſtodes dictorum Collegiorum, aut alios quoſcunque jus habentes admittendi probandique reſignationes præfatas. Et ſi aliqua perſonarum præfatarum contra hujuſmodi decretum & declarationem contra-venerit, eundem videri committere & peccare in gravé prædictorum Collegiorum ſcandalum, & omnem talem admiſſionem, approbationem, & acceptionem, in & de omni præfato medio ſupervifionis tempore factam aut confirmatam, pro gravi in Collegia prædicta ſcandalo haberi & judicari. Quibus omnibus decretis ſanctionibuſque & juſtiſſimis declarationibus dicti Domini Epiſcopi Winton. Cuſtodes utriuſque Collegii una cum reliquis electoribus unanimi conſenſu aſſenſerunt. Et præterea præfati Cuſtodes, ut manifeſtius & abundantius oſtenderent quam pernicioſa ipſis videretur hujuſmodi reſignationum conſuetudo, ſponte ſua affirmarunt, & in ſe reciperunt, ne poſthac unquam allam reſignationem Scholarium ipſis ſubditorum admittant, vel effectualiter accipiat eorum alter, per ſeptem integras ſeptimanas ante tempus ſupervifionis prædictæ quotannis celebrandæ: quam eorum honeſtiſſimam promiſſionem dictus Dominus Epiſcopus ratificavit, [&] Cuſtodibus & Vicecuſtodibus injungens eorundem Collegiorum pro tempore exiſtentibus, ne ipſi ejuſmodi reſignationes infra tempus prædictum ſeptem ſeptimanarum admittant, niſi velint pro manifeſtis contemptoribus ordinis ſalubriter conſtituti, & corruptelæ perditiſſimæ fautoribus, & gravis ſcandali procuratoribus judicari.

THOMAS WINTON.

Martyn Culpeper Cuſtos.	Tho. Bilſon Cuſtos.
Edwarde Burley.	Johan. Boles.
Henry Marten.	Johannes Harmar.

Subſcripta erat hæc ſcedula decreti & declarationis Reverendi in Chriſto Patris Domini Thomæ Winton. Epiſcopi, per eundem Dominum Epiſcopum in manerio ſuo de Waltham Epiſcopi, perque prædictos Cuſtodes utriuſque Collegii cum reliquis electoribus infra Collegium Winton. Viceſimo

† Lege, admittatur, vel—

Septimo

Septimo die Augusti Anno Domini Millesimo Quingentesimo Nonagesimo Secundo.

Teste
Edwarde Cole Notario publico.

N° XIII.

E Veteri Registro Coll. Wintoñ.

MEMORANDUM quod primus adventus Serenissimi Principis Henrici Sexti ad istud Collegium fuit penultimo die Mensis Julii, videlicet die Sabbati Anno Domini Millesimo Quadringentesimo Quadragesimo, & Anno ejusdem Domini Regis Decimo Nono, quo die interfuit primis Vesperis, & in crastino Misse & secundis Vesperis; & obtulit xiij s. iiij d.

ITEM Anno Domini Millesimo Quadringentesimo Quadragesimo Quarto in festo Sancte Cecilie Virginis idem Christianissimus Rex Henricus Sextus interfuit in hoc Collegio utrisque Vesperis atque Misse, in qua preter oblacionem suam cotidianam obtulit centum nobilia ad ornamentum summi altaris ibidem; contulitque notabiliter suis summam Scolaribus & Choristis in eodem, videlicet vj li. xiij s. iiij d. qui insuper ex habundancia affluentissime gratie sue privilegia libertates & francheſias ejusdem Collegii confirmavit & ampliavit; quare dignum est ut ejus in eodem perhennis memoria jugiter habeatur. Et obtulit xiij s. iiij d.

ITEM idem Christianissimus Rex Anno Domini Millesimo Quadringentesimo Quadragesimo Quinto, & anno regni ejusdem Regis Vicesimo Quarto, interfuit die dominica, videlicet in festo Sancti Cuthberti in mense Septembri, in hoc Collegio utrisque Vesperis atque Misse, quo die ex gratia sua dedit Collegio optimam Robam suam unà excepta furrat. cum furrura de Sables, ad Dei laudem & honorem beatissime Marie Virginis. Et obtulit xiij s. iiij d.

ITEM idem illustrissimus Princeps Anno Domini Millesimo Quadringentesimo Quadragesimo Sexto, & anno regni ejusdem

Regis Vicesimo Quinto, in festo Sancti Johannis de Beverlaco, videlicet septimo die Maii contingente in dominica, interfuit utrisque Vesperis atque Misse in hoc Collegio, quo die similiter ex gracia sua dedit Collegio vjl. xiij s. iiij d. Et obtulit eodem tempore ad vices xiij s. iiij d.

Item idem illustrissimus Princeps Anno Domini Millesimo Quadringentesimo Quadragesimo Octavo & Anno regni ejusdem Regis Vicesimo Septimo, in festo Sancti Wolstani Episcopi, interfuit in hoc Collegio utrisque Vesperis die dominica, sed non Misse, quia exhibuit presenciam suam in ecclesia Sancti Swythuni in missa propter introniz̃acionem reverendi Patris & Domini Domini Wilhelmi Wayneflete Episcopi Wynton. nuper magistri informatoris Scolarium hujus Collegii. In crastino vero in die lune in festo sanctorum Fabiani & Sebastiani martyr. idem metuendissimus Dominus interfuit alte Misse predictorum Sanctorum in hoc Collegio, quo die dedit huic Collegio unum calicem de auro, & x lib. in auro pro uno pari fiolarum ordinand. de eodem auro; & ultra ex sua magna gracia dedit liij s. iiij d. pro una pietancia habenda inter Socios & Scolares in festo purificationis beate Marie extunc proximo sequente. Et obtulit xiij s. iiij d.

Item Anno Domini Millesimo Quadringentesimo Quadragesimo Nono, & Anno regni ejusdem Regis Henrici Sexti Vicesimo Septimo, videlicet decimo sexto die mensis Junii in parliamento ejusdem Regis tento hic apud Winton. cum prorogatione dierum usque ad decimum sextum diem mensis Julii inclusive, interfuit idem excellentissimus Princeps in hoc Collegio in festo Sancti Albani martyris die dominica contingente utrisque Vesperis & Misse. Et obtulit xiij s. iiij d.

Item alia vice eodem tempore in festo Johannis Baptistæ interfuit idem metuendissimus Dominus Rex in hoc Collegio utrisque Vesperis & Misse, Reverendo Patre & Domino Domino Wilhelmo Waynflete Episcopo Wynton. totum officium illius diei devotissime exequente. Et obtulit vj s. viij d.

Item alia vice eodem tempore in festo apostolorum Petri & Pauli interfuit idem Christianissimus Rex in hoc Collegio utrisque Vesperis & Matutinis die dominico, sed non Misse; quia exhibuit

exhibuit presenciam suam in ecclesia cathedrali Sancti Swythuni in Missa propter diei sollempnitatem ibidem, quia festum loci; Reverendo Patre Magistro Thoma Bekynton Episcopo Bathon. & Wellens. totum officium illius diei in hoc Collegio sollempnit. exequente, & totum Collegium ipso die lautissime convivantet.

Item alia vice eodem tempore in Octabis apostolorum Petri & Pauli in dominica predictus serenissimus Rex interfuit in hoc Collegio Vesperis ipsius festi & Misse; primis Vesperis vero & secundis Matutinis & Misse in festo Translacionis Sancti Thome Martyris in crastino contingente consimiliter interfuit, totum officium illius diei Venerabili Patre Episcopo Wynton. exequente. Missam vero illius diei celebravit in hoc Collegio Reverendissimus Pater & Dominus Dominus Johannes Stafford Cantuar. Archiepiscopus, totius Anglie Primas, apostolice sedis Legatus, & tunc Anglie Cancellarius, assistentibus eidem venerabilibus in Christo Patribus Wilhelmo Wynton. Episcopo, Wilhelmo Askewe Saresburiens. Episcopo, Adam Moleynes Cicestren. Episcopo tunc Custode privati sigilli Domini Regis, cum aliis notabilibus personis, videlicet Clerico Rotulorum, Clerico Parliamenti, & Clerico Hamperii, & multis aliis; quo die idem Pater Episcopus & Metropolitanus dedit Scolaribus pro refectione xl s. Et obtulit xiij s. iiij d.

Item idem Dominus noster Rex alia vice in festo Reliquiar. videlicet decimo tertio die mensis Julii interfuit in hoc Collegio utrisque Vesperis Matutinis & Misse, Reverendo Patre Domino Episcopo Wynton officium illius diei exequente. Et obtulit vj s. viij d.

Item idem Christianissimus Rex ultimo die Parliamenti, videlicet decimo sexto die mensis Julii, interfuit in hoc Collegio Misse beatissime Marie Virginis, & obtulit vj s. viij d. Post dictam vero Missam obtulit Deo beate Marie & summo altari unum tabernaculum de auro.

Item alia vice idem Dominus noster Rex interfuit divinis officiis, videlicet Vesperis Processioni & Misse, in hoc Collegio, dominica in Ramis Palmarum, eodem die Magistro Thoma Chaundeler Custode istius Collegii post nonam coram eodem Domino Rege & populo sermonem faciente. Et obtulit xiij s. iiij d.

Et

Et ultra ex ſua magna gracia dedit ſummo altari dicti Collegii in auro &c. Officium iſtius diei exequente Cuſtode iſtius Collegii.

ITEM idem Dominus noſter chriſtianiſſimus Rex ultimo vicè fuit in hoc Collegio in feſto Tranſlacionis Sancti Swythuni in utriſque Veſperis ejuſdem Sancti, ſed non in Miſſa, quia exhibuit preſenciam ſuam in eccleſia Sancti Swythuni. Et obtulit idem Rex vjs. viijd.

N° XIV.

E Regiſtro Wykeham, Part. tert. b. fol. 166.

Executio cujuſdam Brevis Regii de Juramento.

WILHELMUS permiſſione divina Wyntonien. Epiſcopus Dilectis in Chriſto filiis Priori Eccleſie noſtre Cathedralis Wynton. Abbati Monaſterii de Hyda noſtre dioc. ac Magiſtro Johanni Elmer Offic. noſtro Wynton. Salutem Gratiam & Benedictionem. Breve Domini noſtri Regis cum quodam tranſcripto dicto brevi interclaſo recepimus in hec verba. Ricardus Dei gratia Rex Angliæ & Franciæ & Dominus Hiberniæ Venerabili in Chriſto Patri W. eadem gratia Epiſcopo Wynton. Salutem. Cum Drugo Barentyn Major Civitatis noſtre London. ac Aldermanni & Cives, nec non ceteri Communes ejuſdem Civitatis ad omnia & ſingula ſtatuta ordinaciones & ſtabilimenta in ultimo Parliamento noſtro apud Weſtm. tento & uſque Salop. adjornato edita ordinata & ſtabilita, una cum omnibus judiciis & ordinacionibus apud Coventr. virtute & auctoritate ejuſdem Parliamenti redditis editis atque factis, ac cum omnibus dependenciis & omnibus aliis que inde ſequi poſſunt pro ſe & ſucceſſoribus ſuis ſingulariter & generaliter bene & fideliter obſervand. in perpetuum ſacramentum ſuper ſanctæ Dei Evangelia præſtiterint corporalia, & pro majori ſecuritate ac veritatis præmiſſorum teſtimonio ad quandam cedulam formam ſacramenti prædicti continentem, cujus tranſcriptum vobis mittimus præſentibus interclaſum, ſigilla ſua apposuerint; Nos conſimilia ſacramenta & ſecuritatem

ſecuritatem de univerſis & ſingulis Ligeis noſtris regni noſtri Anglie de ſtatu reputatis habere volentes vobis mandamus, quod ſtatim viſis preſentibus ac inſpecto tranſcripto predicto omnes & ſingulos Abbates Priores Decanos & Archidiaconos de dioc. veſtra ac alias perſonas eccleſiaſticas ejuſdem dioc. coram vobis ad certos dies & loca, quos ad hoc providerit is, infra eandem dioc. cum omni celeritate & feſtinacione qua poteritis venire fac. & ſacramenta hujuſmodi ab eiſdem Abbatibus Prioribus Decanis & Archidiaconis ac aliis predictis, quod ipſi & ſucceſſores ſui premiſſa modo & forma quibus in dicto tranſcripto ſit mencio conformiter pro parte ſua obſervabunt, recipiatis, & ejuſdem ſacramenti formam in cedulam confimilem redigatis, prefatoſque Abbates Priores Decanos Archidiaconos & alias perſonas predictas eandem cedulam ſigillis ſuis conſignare fac. & cedulam illam cum ſic conſignata fuerit una cum certificacione tocius facti veſtri in hac parte nobis in cancellar. noſtrum ſub ſigillo veſtro diſtincte & apte ſine dilacione mittatis, & hoc Breve. T. meipſo apud Weſtm. octavo die Februar. Anno regni noſtri Viceſimo Secundo. Tenor quidem tranſcripti de quo prefatur talis eſt. A tres excellente mageſté de notre tres redouté & tres ſouverain Seigneur le Roy Richard puis le Conqueſt Seconde. Nous voz humblez & loyalx lieges des corps & des cuers de votre citée de Londres avons & cheſcun de nous ad tres bien entenduz coment vos lieges de votre roialme pour la greindre parti ont ſi come à eux apartient à toute obeiſſaunce & humilitée jurez promys & reconuz ſouz leur ſaitz ſeallèz de ſeveralment & generalment tenir toutz les eſtatutz ordinances & eſtabliſſementz faitz ordeignez & eſtabliz en votre honurable Parlement darrein tenuz à Weſtm. continuez à Salopbirs que toutz les jugementz & ordeinances, faitz & renduz à Coventr. par virtue & auctorité du dit Parlement ſi come en lour ſubmiſſions obeiſſances promeſſes & reconiſances eſt aſſez clerement contenuz; ſur quoy nous voz ſuſditz humblez lieges qi à votre tres excellente mageſté roiale volons & vorrons à toutz jours faire loialment de treſtoutz noz poairs tout quanq à ycelle mageſté purra en aſcune maniere faire pleſance lez ditz eſtatutz ordeinances & eſtabliſſementz que les dependences & quanq ent purra ſuir pour nous

& pour

& pour noz heirs & ſucceſſours devrons & devons ſumez tenuz & ſerrons volans & vouldrons tenir & eſtre tenuz pour toutz jours ſanz jammes venir ne faire ne ſuffrer eſtre fait par aſcune perſonne de quelle condicion ou eſtat qil ſoit aſcunement alen contre en nulle guiſe & ſi aſcun y ſoit q Dieu defende qattempte face attempter ou veiulle attempter ou faire au contraire en tout ou en partie nous les ſerrons & cheſcun de nous le ſerra impedier deſtourbier & empeſcher oue toutz noz corps & biens pour vivre & pour morir & de tout ceo q. impedier ne deſtourbier ne purrons le ſerrons ſanz delay aſcun notifier & atreteiner à votre dicte mageſté Roiale. Et à ceo fermement & loialment tenir pour nous & pour noz heirs & ſucceſſours à toutz jours nous Dreu Barentyn mair aldermans citezeins & communes de votre dite citée promettons & jurons ſur les ſeintz Evangelies & cheſcun de nous promette fait foy & jure & pour greindre ſeurté à iceſtes preſentz lettres mettons noz ſealx en teſmoignance de noz faitz & de la verite. Done, &c. Nos igitur alii dicti Domini noſtri Regis variis & arduis præpediti negotiis dictum breve quovis modo perſonaliter exequi non valentes ad venire faciend. omnes & ſingulos Abbates Priores Decanos & Archidiaconum ac alias perſonas eccleſiaſticas Archidiaconatus Wynton. coram vobis ad certos dies & loca quos ad hoc provideritis infra Archidiaconatum prædictum cum omni celeritate et feſtinacione qua poteritis & ſacramenta hujuſmodi ab eiſdem Abbatibus Prioribus Decanis & Archidiacono ac aliis prædictis quod ipſi & ſucceſſores ſui præmiſſa modo & forma quibus in dicto tranſcripto ſit mencio conformiter pro parte ſua obſervabunt recipiend. & ejuſdem ſacramenti formam in cedulam confimilem redigend. præfatoſque Abbates Priores Decanos Archidiaconum & alias perſonas prædictas eandem cedulam ſigillis ſuis conſignare faciend. ceteraque omnia & ſingula que in præmiſſis vel circa ea neceſſaria fuerint vel quomodolibet opportuna exercend. expediend. & fideliter exequend. vobis de quorum fidelitate & circumſpectionis induſtria plenam in Domino obtinemus fiduciam committimus vices noſtras cum cujuſlibet cohercionis canonice poteſtate: Vobis inſuper & cuilibet veſtrum in virtute obediencie firmiter injungendo mandamus quatinus hanc noſtram commiſſionem ſecundum

cundum omnem vim formam & effectum ſuprædicti brevis exequamini indilate. Et cedulam illam de forma ſacramenti prædicta cum ſic conſignata fuerit una cum certificacione tocius facti veſtri in hac parte nobis infra unum menſem a dat. preſencium continue numerand. ſub ſigillis veſtris diſtincte & apte fine dilacione mittatis. Quod ſi non omnes preſentem noſtram commiſſionem potuerint exequi ut preſentur Volumus quod duo veſtrum ipſam nihilominus exequantur. In cujus rei teſtimonium ſigillum noſtrum fecimus hijs apponi. Dat. in manerio noſtro de Eſther decimo quarto die menſis Maii Anno Domini Milleſimo Trecenteſimo Nonageſimo Nono, & noſtre Conſ. Anno Triceſimo Secundo.

N° XV.

E Regiſtro Wykeham, part. tert. b. fol. 164.

MANDATUM ſuper moderatione Statuti editi contra Proviſores.

WILHELMUS permiſſione divina Wyntonien. Epiſcopus Dilecto in Chriſto filio Offic. Archidiaconi noſtri Winton. Salutem Graciam & Benedictionem. Literas Reverendi in Chriſto Patris & Domini Domini Roberti Dei gratia Londonien. Epiſcopi nup. recepimus in hec verba. Reverendo in Chriſto Patri ac Domino Domino Wilhelmo Dei gracia Wintonien. Epiſcopo Robertus permiſſione divina Londonien. Epiſcopus Salutem & fraternam in Domino caritatem. Literas Reverendiſſimi in Chriſto Patris & Domini Domini Rogeri Dei gracia Cantuarien. Archiepiſcopi tocius Anglie Primatis & apoſtolice ſedis legati nup. recepimus in hec verba. Rogerus permiſſione divina Cantuarien. Archiepiſcopus tocius Anglie Primas & apoſtolice ſedis Legatus Venerabili fratri noſtro Domino Roberto Dei gratia Londonien. Epiſcopo Salutem & faternam in Domino caritatem. Breve regium una cum quadam cedula in eodem incluſa nup. recepimus in hec verba: Ricardus Dei gracia Rex Angliæ & Franciæ & Dominus Hiberniæ Venerabili in Chriſto Patri R. eadem gratia Archiepiſcopo Cantuar. tocius

Anglie Primati ſalutem. Licet nuper quoddam Statutum in Parliamento noſtro apud Weſtm. anno regni noſtri tertiodecimo tento contra Proviſores editum ob honorem Dei & ſancte Romane Eccleſie ac propter præcipuam affeccionem quam erga Dominum Summum Pontificem modernum obtinemus, contemplacione eciam Venerabilis Patris P. Aquenſis Epiſcopi apoſtolice ſedis Nuncii quem eo quod noſter eſt ligeus & magis nobis acceptus ultra omnes alios pro hac materia inantea proſequentes uberius proſperari affectamus aliqualiter moderari ac moderacionem illam Statuto prædicto aut aliis in contrarium ordinatis non obſtantibus fieri. & tolerari a feſto concepcionis beate Marie ultimo preterito ad proximum Parliamentum noſtrum locum tenere & effectum ſortiri & gerere Volentes formam & tenorem moderacionis & tolerancie prædictarum Vobis miſerimus brevi noſtro Vobis inde nuper directo intercluſos mandantes quod pro inviolabili & inconcuſſa obſervacione moderacionis hujuſmodi per tanti temporis ſpacium tolerande partes veſtras quatenus ad officium veſtrum attinet paſtorale adhiberetis ſolicitas & diſcretas & ulterius ceteris confratribus Coepiſcopis & Suffraganeis veſtris Cant. provincie moderacionem prædictam per literas veſtras premiſſorum ſeriem continentes in hac parte debite conficiend. cum omni celeritate qua commode potuiſſetis intimaretis et notificaretis ac teneri & obſervari demandaretis: Quibuſdam tamen certis de cauſis coram nobis per præfatum Epiſcopum Aquenſem expoſitis & declaratis nos intime moventibus moderacionem & toleranciam hujuſmodi Statuti uſque ad feſtum Paſche proxime futurum & ab inde uſque ad idem feſtum tunc proxime ſequens locum tenere & in omnibus effectum ſortiri & gerere volumus & ideo vobis mandamus quod pro debita obſervacione moderacionis hujuſmodi uſque ad dictum poſterius feſtum Paſche tolerande partes veſtras quatenus ad officium veſtrum paſtorale noveritis pertinere adhibeatis ſolicitas & diſcretas, & ulterius ceteris confratribus Coepiſcopis & Suffraganeis veſtris Cantuar. Provincie moderacionem prædictam cujus tenorem vobis mittimus præſentibus intercluſum per literas veſtras premiſſorum ſeriem continentes in hac parte debite conficiend. cum omni celeritate qua commode poteritis intimetis & notificetis ac teneri & obſervari demandetis:

demandetis: injungentes eisdem ex parte nostra quod singuli eorum hujusmodi moderacionem per literas suas sub forma quæ decet similiter conficiend. aliis prælatis & clero suarum dioc: publice intimari & notificari ac teneri & servari fac. sub periculo quod incumbit priore mandato nostro prædicto non obstante. T. meipso apud Coventr. decimo sexto die Januarii anno regni nostri vicesimo secundo. Tenor vero cedule de qua præfertur sequitur in hec verba. Quantum ad moderacionem conventorum sub statuto talis prout sequitur est Domini nostri Regis intencio quod ob honorem Dei & sancte Romane Ecclesie & propter precipuam affeccionem quam obtinet penes Dominum nostrum Summum Pontificem modernum contemplacione eciam Reverendi Patris Domini Petri Dei gracia Aquensis Episcopi apostolice sedis Nuncii quem eo quod suus est ligeus & magis sibi acceptus affectat ultra omnes alios pro hac materia inantea prosequentes uberius prosperari non obstante statuto vel aliis in contrarium ordinatis tolerabitur usque ad proximum Parliamentum prout inferius est inscriptum. In primis videlicet quantum ad dignitates episcopales cum vacuerint expectato congruo tempore pro electionum in Curia representacione Summus Pontifex provideat electo si Rex pro eo scripserit vel alteri Domini nostri Regis ligeo sibi grato & accepto. Item quantum ad provisionem in Cathedralibus & collegiatis ecclesiis providebit Summus Pontifex Cardinalibus vel aliis Anglicis de tribus de cetero vacaturis in singulis ecclesiis suprædictis sub hac forma quod post provisionem unam auctoritate papali habeat Ordinarius secundum & sic vicissim quousque per sedem apostolicam facta sit in tribus provisio in reliquis autem vacaturis penes Ordinarium remanebit collacio. Set tamen Dominis Cardinalibus non providebitur de dignitatibus electivis quibuscunque nec principalibus in collegiatis vel aliquibus beneficiis curatis seu residenciam vel personale administracionis exercicium de jure vel consuetudine requirentibus: Aliquibus tamen alienigenis nisi Cardinalibus infra regnum nullatenus providebit. Item quantum ad provisiones de collacionibus Ordinariorum vel aliorum spiritualium patronorum extra ecclesias metropoliticas cathedrales & collegiatas Summus Pontifex de beneficiis de cetero vacaturis habeat provisiones de primo

vacaturo & Ordinarius vel Patronus Spiritualis de secundo vacaturo & sic fiet visitus usque ad finem Pasche proxime futuri & ab inde usque ad idem festum tunc proxime sequens. Ita tamen tolerancia quantum ad provisiones per sedem apostolicam faciend. in beneficiis post dat. presencium vacaturis tantummodo locum obtinebit titulis & possessione antea obtencionum in omnibus semper salvis. Quocirca vobis committimus & mandamus, quatinus premissa omnia & singula in dictis brevi & cedula content. in vestris civitate & dioc. literis vestris intimetis & notificetis ac moderacionem in dicta cedula expressatam in persona vestra teneatis & observetis. Vobis etiam ex parte regia injungentes quod moderacionem hujusmodi a Prelatis & Clero dictarum vestrarum civitatis & dioc. teneri faciatis & eciam observari, seriemque & tenorem, brevis & cedule predict. de & super moderacione hujusmodi de qua premittitur universis & singulis confratribus Coepiscopis & Suffraganeis nostris nostre Cantuarien. provincie per literas vestras patentes præmissorum seriem continentes in hac parte conficiend. cum omni celeritate qua commode potueritis eciam intimetis & notificetis ac teneri & observari demandetis. Injungentes eisdem ex parte regia quod singuli eorum hujusmodi moderacionem per literas suas sub forma qua decet similiter conficiend. aliis Prelatis & Clero suarum civitatum & dioc. publice intimari & notificari ac teneri & observari faciant prout & secundum quod tenores & effectus brevis & cedule prædictorum in se exigunt et requirunt. Dat. in maneriis nostro de Otteford decimo quarto die mensis Februarii Anno Domini Millesimo Trecentesimo Nonagesimo Octavo & nostre Consc. Anno Secundo. Quarum quidem literarum auctoritate vobis omnia & singula in dictis literis contenta seriemque & tenorem brevis & cedule predict. de & super moderacione hujusmodi de qua præfertur per has literas nostras patentes præmissorum seriem continentes cum ea qua decuit reverencia intimamus & notificamus ac per vos secundum formam & effectum eorundem brevis & cedule teneri & observari mandamus injungentes vobis ex parte regia quod hujusmodi moderacionem per literas vestras sub forma qua decet conficiendi Prelatis & Clero vestrarum civitat. & dioc. publice nunciari & notificari

notificari ac teneri & observari faciatis prout & secundum quod tenores & effectus brevis & cedule prædictarum nec non literarum Reverendissimi Patris Domini Archiepiscopi antedicti in se exigunt & requirunt. Dat. sub sigillo nostro in manerio nostro de Wykham die vicesimo quarto mens. Februar. Anno Domini Millesimo Trecentesimo Nonagesimo Octavo & nostre Consecr. Anno Decimo Octavo. Auctoritate igitur literarum prædictarum vobis committimus & mandamus quatinus omnia & singula in dictis literis contenta seriemque & tenorem brevis & cedule prædict. de & super moderacione hujusmodi Prelatis & clero in nostra Civitate & Archidiaconatu Wynton. constitutis publice nuncietis & notificetis. Injungentes vobis ex parte regia quod hujusmodi moderacionem in persona vestra teneatis & observetis ac eciam a Prelatis & Clero in dictis civitate & Archidiaconatu teneri & observari faciatis prout & secundum quod tenores & effectus brevis & cedule ac literarum prædictarum in se exigunt & requirunt. Dat. &c.

N° XVI.

Ex Libro Evidentiarum Ecclesiæ Cathedralis Winton. N°. I. Fol: 18.

De CANTARIA Wilhelmi Wykeham Episcopi Wynton.

UNIVERSIS Sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ filiis præsentes literas inspecturis, Thomas miseratione divina Ecclesiæ Cathedralis Wyntoniæ Prior humilis & ejusdem loci Conventus, Salutem in eo qui est omnium vera salus. Noverit Universitas vestra quod cum Reverendus in Christo Pater & Dominus Dominus Wilhelmus de Wykeham Wynton. Episcopus noster Prioratus Patronus, divinæ remunerationis intuitu & pro ipsius animæ salute, in nostri Prioratus exoneracionem multimodam & perpetuum relevamen, quoddam corrodium sive præstationem annuam de domo Prioratus ecclesiæ nostræ Sancti Swithuni Priorati de Hamele in the Rys in Com. Sutht. valoris annui decem librarum & amplius primitus debit. postmodumque in de

ad

ad Custodem Socios & Scolares Col. beatæ Mariæ prope civitatem Wynton. Seynte Marie College of Wyncheſtre vulgariter nuncupati, & ipſorum Collegium, per venerabilem Patrem antedictum noviter fundati, auctoritate apoſtolica & regia legitime & effectualiter tranſlat. per eoſdem Cuſtodem Socios & Scolares procuraverit & fecerit nobis et ſucceſſoribus noſtris remitti ac in perpetuum relaxari: Idemque Reverendus Pater quendam annuum redditum quadraginta quinque ſolidorum & quatuor denariorum de manerio de Weſt-meones, quod quondam fuit Philippi de Marmeon, al. dict. Attehalle, exeuntem Nobis & Prioratui noſtro dederit & conceſſerit pro perpetuo, ac etiam ſuam & noſtram eccleſiam Wynton. ipſius gravibus ſumptibus & expenſis decentiſſime & honeſtiſſime a fundamentis reparaverit ac etiam renovaverit, ac nobis & eccleſiæ prædict. ad Dei laudem pariter & honorem veſtimenta & alia ornamenta quamplurima ex ſuæ devotionis fervore contulerit: Nos igitur volentes Reverendo Patri antedicto, per quem & cujus interventu tanta beneficia adepti ſumus & favorabiliter conſecuti, grata viciſſitudine reſpondere, nonnullaque alia bona ſpiritualia & temporalia Nobis & Prioratui noſtro & eccleſiæ noſtræ prædictæ a dicto Reverendo Patre magnifice facta pariter & impenſa ipſiuſque favores multiplices aliquibus bonis ſpiritualibus & orationum ſuffragiis pro viribus compenſare, concedimus & bona fide promittimus pro nobis & ſucceſſoribus noſtris firmiter in animas noſtras præfato Reverendo Patri Domino Wilhelmo noſtro Epiſcopo pariter & Patrono, quod omnia ſequentia & ſubſcripta pro ſalute animæ ſuæ ac progenitorum & benefactorum ejuſdem perpetuis futuris temporibus faciemus & obſervabimus, eaque ſic fieri & obſervari prout inferius continetur inviolabiliter faciemus. In primis vid. quod Reverendus Pater antedictus in capella in qua ſuam elegit ſepulturam infra Eccleſiam Cath. ſupradictam in navi ejuſdem ex parte auſtrali ſituat. habebit tres monachos noſtri conventus tres miſſas pro eo & ſuis benefactoribus cotidie ſpecialiter celebrantes, debebuntque eædem miſſæ modo quo ſequitur perpetualiter celebrari. Prima miſſa vid. tam in æſtate quam yeme ſummo mane, quæ erit de Sancta Maria: aliæ vero duo miſſæ die magis luceſcente de ſanctis aut de temporali ſecundum devotionem

devotionem celebrantium dicentur, horæ tertiæ vid. sive sextæ: quorum quidem monachorum taliter ut præfertur celebrantium pro eodem Reverendo Patre dum superstes fuerit unusquisque in qualibet ejus missa dicat hanc collect. Rege quæsumus, pro ipsius Reverendi Patris statu incolumitate, ac orationem Deus cui proprium, pro animabus patris & matris & benefactorum Reverendi Patris Episcopi supradicti. Postquam vero idem Reverendus Pater subtractus fuerit ab hac luce loco collect. Rege quæsumus, de qua præfertur, dicetur pro eodem Reverendo Patre oratio Deus qui inter apostolicos, singulariter pro eodem. Quibus quidem monachis sic ut præfertur celebrantibus Prior qui tunc est, & qui pro tempore erit, singulis diebus tres denarios. vid. cuilibet eorum unum denarium bonæ & usualis monetæ fideliter ministrabit. Sacrista etiam ecclesiæ supradictæ inveniet eisdem tribus monachis omnia officia missæ necessaria vid. panem & vinum, librum & calicem, vestimenta, luminaria altaris, palla, & quæcunque in hac parte ornamenta alia requisita. Concedimus insuper pro nobis & successoribus, quod pueri elemosinariæ de elemosina dicti Prioratus nostri viventes qualibet nocte perpetuis futuris temporibus ad dictam capellam in qua corpus dicti Reverendi Patris cum in fata decessit disponitur tumulari, cantabunt in honore beatæ Mariæ Virginis Antiphonam Salve Regina, vel Ave Regina, & consequenter dicent Psalmum de Profundis cum Oratione Fidelium, vel Inclina, pro animabus patris & matris dicti Reverendi Patris, ac pro anima dicti Patris cum ab hac luce subtractus fuerit, & animabus omnium fidelium defunctorum. Pro præmissis vero Nos Prior prædictus & successores nostri Priores qui pro tempore fuerint solvemus & solvent Elemosinario dictæ domus annuatim ad opus & utilitatem dictorum puerorum sex solidos & octo denarios in festo Annunciationis beatæ Mariæ Virginis in perpetuum. Volumus etiam & concedimus pro nobis & successoribus nostris in perpetuum, quod die Sabbati cujuslibet septimanæ futuræ monachi Prioratus nostri in ordine sacerdotali constituti, sani valentes & dispositi ad celebrandum, ordinentur & intitulentur in tabula seriatim ad celebrandum missas prædictas cotidie per septimanam tunc sequentem, & si cui de dictis monachis subita infirmitas

firmitas inter horam matutinarum & missæ hujusmodi celebrand. vel prius accesserit, seu aliud impedimentum legitimum occurrerit, ita quod sic ut præfertur celebrare non possit, tunc de ipsa infirmitate seu impedimento, Priorem, Suppriorem vel tertium Priorem præmuniet, ipseque sic præmunitus alium ad celebrandum ut præfertur effectualiter subrogabit, missaque hujusmodi celebrabitur per eundem. Ad quæ omnia & singula facienda implenda & fideliter observanda obligamus nos successores & Prioratum nostros prædictos & omnia bona Prioratus nostri prædicti præfato Venerabili Patri ac ipsius heredibus & executoribus ac districtioni & cohercioni cujuscumque judicis nostri ecclesiasti vel etiam secularis. In quorum omnium testimonium sigillum nostrum commune præsentibus apposuimus. Dat. in domo nostra capitulari Wynton. decimo sexto die mensis Augusti Anno Domini Millesimo Quadringentesimo Quarto.

N° XVII.

TESTAMENTUM

W. WYKEHAM Episcopi Wynton.

E Registro Arundel in Archivis Lamethanis.

Part. I. Fol. 215—218.

Collatum cum Exemplari in Veteri Registro. Coll. Winton.

IN nomine & honore summæ & individuæ Trinitatis Patris & Filii & Spiritus Sancti. Amen. Quia omne, quod sit in tempore, in tempore corrumpetur, & quodlibet mortale vivens paulatim dilabitur & deficit, donec veniat ad ultimum defectum, qui est mors: & nescio quamdiu subsistam, & quando tollet me Factor meus, eo quod cunctis diebus quibus nunc milito expecto donec veniat immutatio mea; hac meditatione gravi & continua sollicitus & pulsatus ego WILHELMUS WYKEHAM, Altissimo permittente, humilis Minister Ecclesiæ Cathedralis Wynton. licet indignus, non ponens spem meam in præsentis vitæ brevitate, quæ est vapor ad modicum parens & subito transiens

ſans, ſciens me de hac valle miſeriæ neceſſario receſſurum, ſed diem & horam exitus mei ignorans, ac cupiens mea noviſſima prævidere priuſquam vadam ad eum qui me miſit, ad honorem Plaſmatoris mei & Domini Jeſu Chriſti Filii Dei, & pro ſalute animæ meæ, & pro remiſſione omnium delictorum & peccatorum meorum, TESTAMENTUM meum ſive ultimam voluntatem meam ſana mente & puro corde, condo, ordino, & facio in hunc modum.

IMPRIMIS lego & recommendo Animam meam omnipotenti Deo, Plaſmatori & Salvatori meo, qui eam creavit ex nichilo; humillimo corde ipſius clementiam deprecans, & requirens ut eam per debitum magnæ miſericordiæ ſuæ in ſocietate Electorum ſuorum collocare dignetur.

ITEM lego Corpus meum, cum ab hac luce migravero, tradendum eccleſiaſticæ ſepulturæ in medio cujuſdam Capellæ in Navi dictæ Eccleſiæ ex parte auſtrali ejuſdem per me de novo conſtructæ.

DE Bonis autem meis, quæ michi contulit clementia Salvatoris, ſic diſpono, volo, ordino & lego, viz. Quod ultra & præter expenſas ad honorem & laudem Dei ratione funeris mei, Servi ſui, faciendas, quas committo diſpoſitioni, ordinationi, & diſcretioni Executorum & Amicorum meorum, omnia debita mea quæcunque quibuſcunque perſonis ex quacunque cauſa vel occaſione ſint debita, plene & integre perſolvantur abſque difficultate, contradictione, impedimento ſeu dilatione aliquali; et deinde Legata ſubſcripta Legatariis quibuſcunque plene & integre perſolvantur: de quibus vero onero conſcientiæ Executorum meorum, quod ipſi Executores mei omnia & ſingula ſubſcripta, ſpecificata & legata, plene, bene, fideliter & integre, abſque defalcatione, ſubſtractione, ſeu diminutione quacunque faciant & exequantur in omnibus, prout ipſi inde reſpondere voluerint coram ſummo Judice Domino meo Jeſu Chriſto.

ITEM lego, volo & ordino, quod in caſtro, manerio, villa, ſeu loco alio quocunque in quo me mori contigerit, Executores mei donent & diſtribuant pauperibus debilioribus & magis indigentibus perſonis de me in vita & epiſcopatu meo tenentibus ibidem, & in omni loco per quem contigerit corpus meum de-

ferri uſque ad Eccleſiam meam Winton. ad orandum pro ſalute animæ meæ cuilibet ipſorum pauperum tenentium quatuor denarios, & cuilibet alteri, eleemoſynam pro amore Dei petenti, duos denarios, vel unum denarium ad minus, juxta diſcretionem & ordinationem ipſorum Executorum meorum.

Item volo, ordino & lego, quod Executores mei donent & diſtribuant, die ſepulturæ corporis mei, cuilibet pauperi indigenti venienti apud Winton. & eleemoſynam pro amore Dei & ſalute animæ meæ petenti, quatuor denarios.

Item lego Ducentas Libras dividendas inter pauperes priſonas * in priſonis de Newgate in London, Mareſcalciæ Regis, Wolveſeye, Winton. Oxon. Berks. Guldeforde, Veteris & Novæ Sarum. pro amore Dei, & pro ſalute animæ meæ.

Item, Quia Deus decorem domus ſuæ & locum habitationis ſuæ diligit, ad honorem & laudem ipſius Dei, & Domini noſtri Jeſu Chriſti, & ſanctæ Mariæ matris ſuæ, Apoſtolorumque ejus Petri & Pauli, & Patronorum eccleſiæ meæ predictæ, nec non Sanctorum Birini, Swythuni, Eddæ & Ethelwoldi, quorum corpora & reliquiæ in dicta continentur eccleſia, volo & ordino quod Executores mei corpus ſive medium eccleſiæ ſupradictæ inter alas auſtralem & borealem, ab oſtio occidentali chori ejuſdem eccleſiæ deorſum uſque ad finem occidentalem ejuſdem eccleſiæ, in muris, feneſtris & valto, honeſte & honorifice, conformiter & decenter ſecundum exigentiam formamque & modum novi operis alarum prædictarum nunc incepti, nec non & eaſdem alas per idem ſpatium in longitudine refici faciant, ac debite reparari uſque ad ſummam Duarum Millium & Quingentarum Marcarum, ſi tantum expendi oporteat in opere ſupradicto, pro completione & conſummatione ejuſdem, juxta modum & formam ſuperius limitat. Hijs tamen conditionibus ſervatis in præmiſſis, quod Prior & Conventus eccleſiæ ſupradictæ inveniant totum ſcaffaldum ad opus prædictum neceſſarium, ſeu etiam opportunum; ac quod gratis & libere permittant & ſuſtineant calcem & mabulum de terris & quarreris eorum, ac hominum & tenentium ſuorum, ubi melius ac utilius, pro celeriori ac feliciori dicti

* Forſan, priſonar: i. e. priſonarios.

operis

operis expeditione, Executores mei viderint expedire, ad hujuſmodi novum opus dictæ eccleſiæ, fodi, cariari, & abduci per operarios, a me vel Executoribus meis ad hoc deputandos, quouſque opus hujuſmodi ſic ut præmittitur totaliter compleatur; ita etiam, quod lapides, plumbum, ferramenta, meremium, vitrum, & quæcunque alia materia veteris operis ejuſdem eccleſiæ integre cedat, remaneat, & convertatur in uſum, auxilium & utilitatem novi operis ſupradicti. Volo etiam & ordino quod diſpoſitio & ordinatio hujuſmodi novi operis fiant per Magiſtrum Wilhelmum Winford, & alios ſufficientes, diſcretos, & in arte illa approbatos, ab Executoribus meis, ſi oportuerit, deputandos: ac quod Dominus Simon Membury nunc dicti operis Superviſor nec non & Solutor, ſit etiam Solutor & Superviſor in futurum, durante opere ſupradicto, per ſuperviſum, teſtimonium & contra-rotulationem fratris Johannis Wayte dictæ eccleſiæ meæ Commonachi, nuncque ex parte dictorum Prioris, & Conventus Contra-rotulatoris operis ſupradicti, dum modo ſanus & incolumis fuerit, & circa hoc laborare potuerit: alioquin ipſo deficiente, ſeu laborare non valente, per ſuperviſum, teſtimonium & contra-rotulationem alterius dictæ eccleſiæ Commonachi, in hac parte diſcreti ſufficientis & ydonei ad hoc per dictos Priorem & Conventum capitulariter eligendi, durante opere memorato. Quodque ſolutiones pro dictis operibus fiant de tempore ad tempus per ordinationem, diſpoſitionem & diſcretionem omnium Executorum meorum, vel ad minus quinque de iiſdem, de fideliter adminiſtrando coram inſinuante Teſtamentum meum hujuſmodi juratorum.

Item lego pro feneſtris tam ſuperioribus quam inferioribus partis auſtralis eccleſiæ prædictæ per me reparatæ, bene & honeſte & decenter juxta ordinationem & diſpoſitionem Executorum meorum vitriandis, Quingentas Marcas. Et volo quod fiant hujuſmodi feneſtræ vitreæ incipiendo in fine occidentali eccleſiæ prædictæ in novo opere per me facto ſeriatim & in ordine uſque ad completionem ac conſummationem omnium feneſtrarum dicti novi operis partis auſtralis antedictæ. Et ſi quid tunc de dicta ſumma remanſerit non expenditum, volo quod circa feneſtras alæ borealis totaliter expendatur, incipiendo in fine occidentali

ad primam fenestram novi operis per me facti, & sic continuando versus partem orientalem, prout de parte australi superius specialiter ordinavi.

Item lego Domino meo Regi unum par pelvium argent. & deaurat. cum rosis duplicatis sculptis in fundo earundem. Et remitto eidem Domino meo Regi Quingentas Libras de pecunia a me mutuo recepta per eundem.

Item lego Domino meo Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi unum anulum aureum cum lapide de ruby. Item unum par precum de auro appensum ad unum monile de auro, habens hæc verba insculpta, "IHC est Amor meus." Item unum discum eleemosynarium argenteum & novum formatum ad modum navis.

Item lego Successori meo in Episcopatu meo Winton meliorem Librum meum de Officio Pontificali, qui incipit in secundo folio "Dicant excepto." Item meliorem librum meum missalem; qui incipit in secundo folio post Kalendare "Tum Angelum." Item lego eidem Successori meo majorem anulum meum, aureum, pontificalem, cum lapide de saphiro circumdato & ornato cum quatuor baleys & duobus parvis diamandis, ac undecim margaritis. Item calicem meum meliorem deauratum & amelatum in pede cum ymaginibus de Passione. Item Ponsere meum meliorem operatum & ornatum cum novem baleys & cxlj margaritis.

Item lego Reverendo in Christo Patri Domino Roberto Dei gratia London. Episcopo majorem lectum meum rubeum de serico, qui pendere solet in majori camera Palatii Winton. cum toto apparatu ejusdem, ac totam sectam de tapetis rubeis cameræ prædictæ, quibus uti soleo cum eodem lecto ibidem.

Item lego Ecclesiæ meæ Winton. vestimentum meum novum de blodio panno, virgato & operato cum leonibus de auro, cum triginta capis de eodem panno aurifrigiatis cum historia de Jesse. Item lego eidem ecclesiæ meæ unum vas de berillo, ordinatum pro corpore Christi. Item unam crucem de auro cum reliquiis de ligno Dominico.

Item lego Priori ecclesiæ meæ prædictæ ad orandum pro anima mea unum cyphum argenteum deauratum cum cooperculo,

culo, & unum aquarium argenteum deauratum, pretii amborum Viginti Librarum.

Item lego ſingulis Monachis ejuſdem eccleſiæ in ordine ſacerdotali conſtitutis ad orandum pro anima mea Quinque Marcas; cuilibet autem Monacho ejuſdem eccleſiæ non Preſbytero, in minoribus ordinibus conſtituto, lego Quadraginta Solidos ad orandum pro anima mea.

Item lego Collegio meo Oxon. mitram meam & baculum meum paſtoralem, ac dalmaticas & ſandalia mea.

Item lego Collegio meo Winton. aliam mitram meam plamam, aurifrigiatam, ac bibliam meam uſualem. Item librum vocatum "Catholicon." Item librum vocatum "Rationale Divinorum." Item librum vocatum "Florarium Bartholomæi." Item librum de Vita Sancti Thomæ, vocatum "Thomas." Item librum vocatum. "Pars Oculi."

Item lego Cuſtodi Coll. mei Oxon. Decem Marcas & unum cyphum argenteum deauratum cum cooperculo, & unum aquarium argenteum deauratum, pretii amborum Viginti Marcarum; quem quidem cyphum cum cooperculo & aquarium volo dicto Cuſtodi & ſuis in ipſius officio Succeſſoribus ad uſum ſuum & dicti Collegii pro perpetuo remanere.

Item lego cuilibet Socio perpetuo ejuſdem Coll. in ordine ſacerdotali conſtituto Viginti Sex Solidos & Octo Denarios; cuilibet autem Socio non Preſbytero in ſacris ordinibus conſtituto Viginti Solidos; cuilibet vero Socio in minoribus ordinibus conſtituto Sexdecim Solidos Octo Denarios; ac unicuique Scholari ejuſdem Coll. infra probationis annos exiſtenti, dum tamen ſteterit per annum in Collegio poſtquam receptus fuerit in verum & perpetuum Socium ejuſdem, Treſdecim Solidos Quatuor Denarios Sterlingorum.

Item lego cuilibet Capellano conductitio Capellæ Coll. mei Oxon per biennium continuum a die mortis meæ moram in dicto Coll. facienti, & divina celebranti in eodem, Viginti Solidos. Et volo, ordino, & diſpono, quod ſingulis diebus a die mortis meæ notæ in dicto Coll. uſque ad diem ſolemnitatis ſepulturæ meæ & per quadraginta dies ex tunc immediate ſequentes dicatur in communi in Capella ipſius Coll. cum nota

officium

officium mortuorum ac miſſa ſolempnis de Requiem pro anima mea, & animabus omnium fidelium defunctorum.

Item lego Decem Libras dividendas & diſtribuendas inter Clericos & Choriſtas Capellæ dicti Coll. Oxon. ac Servientes intrincecos communes ipſius Coll. juxta diſcretionem Cuſtodis Vicecuſtodis & Burſariorum Collegii memorati.

Item lego Cuſtodi Coll. mei Winton. Decem Marcas & unum cyphum argenteum deauratum, cum cooperculo, & unum aquarium argenteum deauratum, pretii amborum Viginti Marcarum. Quem quidem cyphum cum cooperculo & aquario volo dicto Cuſtodi & ſuis in ipſius officio Succeſſoribus ad uſum ſuum & dicti Coll. pro perpetuo remanere.

Item lego cuilibet Socio perpetuo Preſbytero ejuſdem Coll. mei Winton. Viginti Sex Solidos & Octo Denarios; cuilibet autem Capellano conductitio Capellæ Coll. mei juxta Winton. Viginti Solidos: ac Magiſtro Thomæ Romſeye Inſtructori Scholarium Coll. prædicti Centum Solidos, Sub-inſtructori vero five Hoſtiario Viginti Solidos. Et volo quod ſingulis diebus a die mortis meæ uſque ad diem ſolempnitatis ſepulturæ meæ, & per quadraginta dies extunc immediate ſequentes dicatur in communi in Capella dicti Coll. Winton. cum nota officium mortuorum & miſſa ſolempnis de Requiem pro ſalute animæ meæ & omnium fidelium defunctorum.

Item lego cuilibet Scholari Coll. mei Winton. Sex Solidos & Octo Denarios.

Item lego Decem Marcas Sterlingorum dividendas & diſtribuendas inter Clericos & Choriſtas dicti Coll. Winton. ac Servientes intrincecos communes ipſius Coll. juxta diſcretionem Cuſtodis Vicecuſtodis & Burſariorum Coll. memorati.

Item lego Fabricæ Eccleſiæ Sarum Viginti Libras pro exequiis die obitus mei, & die tricesimo a tempore mortis meæ, inter ipſius eccleſiæ Canonicos & Miniſtros ſolempniter celebrandis.

Item lego Abbati Monaſterii de Hyda ad orandum pro anima mea unum cyphum argenteum deauratum cum cooperculo, pretii Decem Librarum: & cuilibet Monacho ejuſdem Monaſterii in ordine ſacerdotali conſtituto Quadraginta Solidos, cuilibet vero

vero alteri dicti Monaſterii Monacho in minoribus ordinibus conſtituto Viginti Solidos, ad orandum pro anima mea.

ITEM lego Abbatiſſæ Monaſterii Sanctæ Mariæ Winton. Quinque Marcas Sterlingorum; cuilibet autem Moniali ejuſdem Monaſterii lego Treſdecim Solidos Quatuor Denarios.

ITEM lego Priori & Conventui Beatæ Mariæ de Overe in Suthwerk meorum Patronatus & Dioceſios pro reparatione eccleſiæ ipſorum & ad orandum pro anima mea Quadraginta Libras Sterlingorum in quibus michi tenentur.

ITEM lego Abbati & Conventui de Waverle meorum Patronatus & Dioceſios ad orandum pro anima mea Decem Libras.

ITEM lego Abbathiæ de Tychefeld meorum Patronatus & Dioceſios unum par veſtimentorum cum calice.

ITEM lego Priori & Conventui de Tanton mei Patronatus Bathonienſis Dioceſios ad orandum pro anima mea Centum Marcas Sterlingorum.

ITEM lego Abbatiſſæ Monaſterii Monialium de Romeſeye Quinque Marcas Sterlingorum.

ITEM lego Felic. Aas * Moniali ejuſdem Monaſterii Centum Solidos; cuilibet vero alteri Moniali ejuſdem Monaſterii lego Treſdecim Solidos & Quatuor Denarios.

ITEM lego Abbatiſſæ & Conventui ejuſdem Monaſterii pro reparatione eccleſiæ ſuæ & clauſtri ejuſdem Monaſterii Quadraginta Libras Sterlingorum in quibus michi nunc ex mutuo tenentur.

ITEM lego Fabricæ Eccleſiæ Parochialis ibidem Viginti Marcas.

ITEM lego Abbatiſſæ & Conventui de Wherewell ad orandum pro anima mea Viginti Marcas.

ITEM lego Priori & Conventui Sancti Dionyſii juxta Suthampton ad reparandum & emendandum defectus eccleſiæ ipſorum Viginti Marcas.

ITEM lego Prioriſſæ & Conventui de Wynteney ad orandum pro anima mea Decem Libras Sterlingorum.

* Ays, Regiſt. Arundel.

ITEM

Item lego Priori & Conventui de Taurigge meæ Diocefios ad orandum pro anima mea Centum Solidos.

Item lego ad diſtribuendum inter Fratres & Sorores ac Pauperes Hoſpitalis Sancti Thomæ in Suthwerk ad orandum pro anima mea juxta diſcretionem Executorum meorum Decem Marcas.

Item lego Hoſpitali Sanctæ Crucis juxta Winton. unum par veſtimentorum cum calice, & unum par pelvium argent. cum † Feer de Molyn ſculptis in fundo earundem ad modum crucis.

Item lego Hoſpitali Sancti Nicholai de Portesmuth unum par veſtimentorum cum calice.

Item lego Eccleſiæ Beatæ Mariæ Suthampton unum par veſtimentorum cum calice.

Item lego Collegio Sanctæ Elizabethæ unum par pelvium argent. cum ymagine Sancti Martini ſedente in equo ſculpt. in fundo earundem, ac duos urciolos argenteos ad uſum ſummi altaris ibidem.

Item lego Hoſpitali Sanctæ Mariæ Magdalenæ prope Civitatem Winton. pro reparatione eccleſiæ ac domorum & tenementorum ejuſdem Hoſpitalis Centum Solidos.

Item lego Sororibus Hoſpitalis Eleemoſynariæ Eccleſiæ meæ Sancti Swythuni Quadraginta Solidos inter ipſas æqualiter dividendos ad orandum pro anima mea.

Item lego Eccleſiæ de Hameldon unum portiforium Capellæ meæ juxta electionem & diſcretionem Executorum meorum, & unum calicem.

Item lego conſimili modo Eccleſiæ de Eſtmeone unum aliud portiforium dictæ Capellæ meæ & unum calicem.

Item lego cuilibet Eccleſiarum ſubſcriptarum, viz. Wyttency, Farnham, Chiriton, Havonte, & Burghclere, mei Patronatus, unum veſtimentum integrum viz. pro Sacerdote, Diacono, & Sub-diacono, cum capa etiam & uno calice.

Item lego cuilibet Eccleſiarum ſubſcriptarum viz. Fallegh, Crawle, Alwardſtoke, South-Waltham, & Drokeneaford, meorum Patronatus & Dioceſios, unam capam de capis uſualibus in

† Fer de Moulin; *i. e.* The Iron of a Mill; a Bearing in Heraldry.

Capella

Capella mea juxta diſcretionem Executorum meorum, nec non unum calicem.

ITEM lego cuilibet Conventui quatuor Ordinum Fratrum Mendicantium Civitatis Winton. Decem Marcas ad orandum pro anima mea.

ITEM lego Aliciæ Perot conſanguineæ meæ Centum Libras Sterlingorum.

ITEM lego Magiſtro Johanni Wykeham Rectori Eccleſiæ de Crondale Centum Libros Sterlingorum.

ITEM lego Edithæ Ryngebourne conſanguineæ meæ pro ſe & liberis ſuis non maritatis nec promotis Centum Libras Sterlingorum.

ITEM lego Agneti Wodelok conſanguineæ meæ pro ſe & liberis ſuis non maritatis nec promotis Centum Libras Sterlingorum.

ITEM lego Johannæ uxori Wilhelmi Mavyell pro ſe & liberis ſuis non maritatis nec promotis Quadraginta Libras Sterlingorum.

ITEM lego Edithæ uxori Wilhelmi Croyſer conſanguineæ meæ centum Libras Sterlingorum.

ITEM lego Dominæ Agneti Sandes conſanguineæ meæ pro ſe & liberis ſuis non maritatis nec promotis Centum Libras Sterlingorum.

ITEM lego Thomæ Warenner Quinquaginta Marcas in quibus michi per ſcriptum ſuum obligatorium tenetur.

ITEM lego Thomæ filio & hæredi ejuſdem Thomæ conſanguineo meo Viginti Libras Sterlingorum.

ITEM lego Riginald. filio ejuſdem Thomæ Warenner conſanguineo meo Viginti Libras Sterlingorum.

ITEM lego Wilhelmo Ryngebourne conſanguineo meo Viginti Libras Sterlingorum.

ITEM Johanni Bennet de Bottele conſanguineo meo Viginti Libras Sterlingorum.

ITEM lego Magiſtro Johanni Wykeham Rectori Eccleſiæ de Biriton pro inceptione ſua in theologia & aliis actibus ſcholaſticis Quinquaginta Libras.

ITEM lego Elenæ ſorori Magiſtri Nicholai Wykeham pro ſe & liberis ſuis non maritatis nec promotis Viginti Libras.

ITEM lego Selote Purbyk Decem Libras.

ITEM lego duobus Capitalibus Juſticiariis Domini Regis, de Banco Domini Regis & de communi Banco, cuilibet ipſorum unum anulum aureum cum uno dyamand. vel unum de parvis tablettis ad valorem Centum Solidorum.

ITEM lego Domino Wilhelmo Hengford unum anulum aureum vel unum tablett. ad valorem Centum Solidorum.

ITEM lego Domino Roberto Faryngton unum pſalterium & unum par precum.

ITEM lego Johanni Uvedale unum cyphum argenteum vel aliud jocale ad valorem Decem Marcarum.

ITEM lego Henrico Popham unum cyphum argenteum vel aliud jocale ad valorem Decem Marcarum.

ITEM lego Johanni Chamflour, Nicholao Bray, & Stephano Carre, cuilibet ipſorum unum cyphum vel aliud jocale ad valorem Centum Solidorum.

ITEM lego Domino Wilhelmo Savage Reſtori Eccleſiæ de Overton Viginti Libras.

ITEM Domino Johanni Keton Præcentori Eccleſiæ Suthampton Viginti Libras.

ITEM volo, ordino & lego, quod Executores mei donent & diſtribuant perſonis in Rotulo huic Præſenti Teſtamento annexo, & ſigillo meo ſigillato, conſcriptis, res & ſummas in eodem rotulo ipſarum ſingulis deſignatas ac etiam limitatas.

ITEM lego Executoribus meis onus adminiſtrationis hujus Teſtamenti mei in ſe ſuſcipientibus ſummam Mille Librarum inter ipſos æqualiter dividendam, nomine remunerationis laborie eorundem circa executionem Teſtamenti prædicti; ita tamen, quod nullus dictorum Executorum meorum quicquam in dicta ſumma percipiat ſeu participet, niſi hujus Teſtamenti mei onus adminiſtrationis in ſe ſuſceperit & admiſerit, ac de fideliter adminiſtrando in bonis hujuſmodi Teſtamentum meum concernentibus, coram illo, per quem Teſtamenti hujus probationem fieri contiget, ad ſancta Dei Evangelia præſtet corporaliter juramentum.

RESIDUUM

Residuum vero bonorum meorum ſuperius non legatorum, do, lego & committo ordinationi ac diſpoſitioni Executorum meorum ſubſcriptorum; ut ipſi de bonis meis prædictis pro ſalute & remedio animæ meæ ordinent ac fideliter diſponant ſicut in districto examine coram Summo Judice voluerint reſpondere. Hujus autem Teſtamenti mei Executores ordino, facio, & conſtituo Reverendum in Chriſto Patrem Dominum Robertum, Dei gratia, Londonien. Epiſcopum, ac venerabiles viros Magiſtros Nicholaum Wykeham, Johannem Elmere, & Johannem Campeden, Thomam Chelrey Seneſcallum terrarum Epiſcopatus mei Winton. Thomam Wykeham conſanguineum meum & hæredem, ac Dominum Thomam Aylewarde Rectorem Eccleſiæ de Havonte.

Dat. apud South-Waltham viceſimo quarto die Menſis Julii, Anno ab Incarnatione Domini ſecundum curſum & computationem Eccleſiæ Anglicanæ Milleſimo Quadringenteſimo Tertio. Indiccione undecima Pontificatus ſanctiſſimi in Chriſto Patris & Domini noſtri Domini Bonifacii divina Providentia Papæ Noni Anno Decimo Quarto.

Præſentibus diſcretis viris Dominis Wilhelmo Norton, Thoma Lavyngton, Wilhelmo Butillere & Johanne Knyght, ac me Wilhelmo Doune Notario Publico hujus Teſtamenti Scriba, Teſtibus ad hoc vocatis ſpecialiter & rogatis.

Et ego Wilhelmus Doune Clericus Exon. Dioc. Publicus auctoritate apoſtolica Notarius prædicti Teſtamenti ſuccioni, voluntati, ordinationi, diſpoſitioni, Executorum nominationi, & conſtitutioni, teſtiumque prædictorum rogationi, ac cæteris omnibus & ſingulis præmiſſis, dum ſic ut præmittitur per Reverendum Patrem Dominum Wilhelmum Wykeham Epiſcopum Winton. ſub anno, indiccione, pontificatu, menſe, die, & loco prædictis agebantur & fiebant, una cum prænominatis teſtibus præſens interfui, eaque ſic fieri vidi & audivi: ac de mandato ejuſdem Reverendi Patris ſcripſi & in hanc publicam formam redegi, ſignoque & nomine meis conſuetis ſignavi in fidem & teſtimonium omnium præmiſſorum.

CODICELLUS sive ROTULUS de quo supra fit mentio.

Thomas Chelrey de vasis argent. ad valorem	l. libr.
Thomas Wykeham de vasis argent. ad valorem	l. libr.
Magister Nicholaus Wykeham de vasis argent. ad valorem.	l. libr.
Magister Johannes Ellemere de vas. argent. ad val.	l. libr.
Magister Johannes Campeden de vas. argent. ad val.	l. libr.
	l. s. d.
Magister Robertus Keton de vas. arg. ad val.	xxvj xiij iiij
Thomas Aylward de vas. arg. ad val.	l. libr.
Wilhelmus Norton de vas. arg. ad val.	xxvj xiij iiij
Thomas Lavyngton de vas. arg. ad val.	xxvj xiij iiij
Wilhelmus Butillere xx Libr. cum uno calice præterea.	
Walterus Aude	xx libr.
Johannes Sturmistre xx Libr. cum uno calice	
Johannes Lytton	x libr.
Johannes Bussh	xx libr.
Richardus Chicheſtre	vj xiij iiij
Johannes Knyght xx Libr. cum uno calice	
Johannes Langele	vj xiij iiij
Johannes Hende	c. s.
Joc. Bailiff	c. s.
Wilhelmus Brocheband xx Libr. cum uno cipho argent.	
Johannes Foxle	x libr.
Wilhelmus Weſtynton	x libr.
Radulphus Arches	c. s.
Johannes Dantre c ſolid. de oblig.	
Wilhelmus Changelton	c. s.
Johannes Coudray	c. s.
Guido Denham	c. s.

Nicholaus

Nicholaus Gifrewaft	lxvi s viij d
Thomas Penne	lxvi s viij d
Johannes Arnold	c. s.
Johannes Shire	c. s.
Johannes Devenish c solid. de oblig.	
Johannes Prewes	lxvj s viij d
Johannes Pope	vj l xiij s iiij d
Nicholaus Hackestalle	lxvj s viij d
Wilhelmus Doune	c. s.
Wilhelmus Grene	lxvj s viij d
Johannes Boscham	xl s.
Stephanus Austel	xl s.
Nicholaus Sturgeon	xl s.
Wilhelmus Welde	xl s.
Rogerus de Camera	c. s.
	l. s. d.
Petrus Knyght	vj xiij iiij
Johannes Barbour	lxvj viij
Nicholaus Gerveys	lxvj viij
Wilhelmus Peti-John	lxvj viij
Wilhelmus Salemun	vj xiij iiij
Richardus Crokkere	lxvj viij
Johannes Combe	vj xiij iiij
Johannes Cranbourne	lxvj viij
Thomas Somer	lxvj viij
Robertus Hertele	lxvj viij
Robertus Goos	lxvj viij
Richardus Bonyet	xl s.
Johannes Skyrewhit	lxvj viij
Thomas Squiler	lxvj viij
Robertus Grey	lxvj viij
Johannes Namby	lxvj viij
Johannes Golde	lxvj viij
Johannes Gay	lxvj viij
Wilhelmus Wayte	lxvj viij
Thomas Bakere Huntere	xl s.
Johannes Ferrour	lxvj viij

Petrus

Petrus Hyndon Thomas Payn Johannes Mundy Wilhelmus [*Ruffel] Richardus [*Wintrythe] Galfridus [*Bowyar]	Cuilibet	xx solid.
Nicholaus Bucher Johannes Gare Butellar. Richardus Howe Richardus Forde Rogerus Gare Aulæ Johannes Bury Thomas Lavender Johannes Bolt Johannes Frythe Nicholaus Bonde Rogerus Gare Piſtrinæ Richardus Smith g. cameræ Domini Thomas Rede Gardinar. de Waltham Johannes Fox Wilhelmus Gog Johannes Martyn Richardus Bikebrok Johannes Stanes Wilhelmus Bailif Johannes Billebury Robertus Bathe Johannes Lemere Wilhelmus Aldewyne	Cuilibet	xl solid.
Garcio Venatoris Pag. Char. Goos Pag. Char. Somer Pag. Lavendr.	Cuilibet	xx solid.

* Vet. Regiſtr. Coll. Wint.

Pag.

Pag. Piſtrinæ Pag. Palfr. Pag. Pult. Pag. Carnific. Rogerus Sourlond Pag. Squiler Johannes Smyth Johannes Fox, junior. Johannes Wayte Pag. Hak.	Cuilibet	xx ſolid.
Simon Membury		x libr.
Vicar de Sombourn Regiſtr. unum ciphum arg. cum cooperculo ad valorem		x marc.
[*Johannes Doun Clericus Regiſtrarius quinque marc.]		
Wilhelmus Mavyel Johannes Arches Wilhelmus Faukener Johannes Dekene Edwardus Coudray Johannes Fromond Richardus Wallop Richardus Elys Thomas Warennere Walterus Hoke	Cuilibet iſtorum c. s. vel unum ciphum arg. ad valorem c. s. ad electionem Executorum.	
Richardus Prewes Clericus Epiſcopatus		x libr.
Wilhelmus Portman Clericus de Taunton †		
Wilhelmus Lamport Clericus de Dounton		lxvj s viij d
Edmundus Nyng Clericus de Twyford		c. s
Richardus Sydal Clericus de Wytteneye		lxvj s viij d
Johannes Compton Clericus de Wergrave		lxvj s viij d
Henricus Habraham Clericus de Sutton		c. s
Wilhelmus Knyght Clericus de Meone		x libr.
Richardus Knollere Clericus de Waltham		c. s.

* Vet. Regiſtr. Coll. Wint.

† Ita Regiſtr. Arundel. Deeſt in Vet. Regiſt. Coll. Wint.

Wilhelmus

Wilhelmus Pope Clericus de Clere
Johannes Shire Clericus de Farnham
Johannes Myft

Janitor de Taunton
Janitor de Wolveſey
Janitor de Farnham
Janitor London.
} juxta diſcrecionem Executorum.

Parcarius
de Taunton
de Waltham
de Farnham
de Hameldon
de Meone
de Merdon
de Merewell
de Clere
de Sutton
de Farham
de Biterne
} juxta diſcrecionem Executorum.

Cuſtos Warennæ de Overton
Cuſtos Warennæ de Farnham
Cuſtos Warennæ de Wergrave
Cuſtos Warennæ de Longwode
Thomas Buckingham Warennarius de Eſthere
} juxta diſcrecionem Executorum.

IN DEI NOMINE AMEN. Ego Wilhelmus Wyhham Altiſſimo permittente humilis Miniſter Eccleſiæ Cath. Wynt. licet indignus, conſiderans quod ambulatoria eſt voluntas teſtantium uſque ad vitæ ipſorum exitum, nec non ad mentem meam revocans, ac memoriæ reducens, quod poſt Teſtamenti mei factionem, nonnulla in eodem Teſtamento legata, ordinata, & diſpoſita, ſunt per me divina gratia aſſiſtente juxta dictæ ultimæ voluntatis meæ diſpoſitionem adimpleta & executioni realiter demandata; idcirco codicillando quoad omnia legata hujuſmodi, quæ duxi præſentibus codicillis ſpecialius exprimenda, Executores in præfato Teſtamento meo nominatos volo

volo esse penitus exoneratos etiam & quietos, ac eadem legata expresse adimo per præsentes. In primis legatum Ducentarum Librarum relictum pauperibus prisonis * in Testamento meo prædicto. Item legatum vestimenti novi de blod. panno virgato & operato cum leonibus de auro, cum triginta capis de eodem panno aurifrigiatis cum historia de Jesse relictum Ecclesiæ meæ Wynton. in eodem. Item legatum relictum in eodem Abbati Mon. de Hyda & cuilibet monacho ejusdem Mon. Item legatum precum relictum in eodem Domino Roberto Faryngton. Item Quinquaginta Marcas de legato C Librarum relict. in eodem Aliciæ Perot consanguineæ meæ. Item omnia & singula legata relicta in quodam Rotulo eidem Testamento annexo & sigillo meo sigillato, de quo in eodem Testamento meo fit mentio, personis in eodem Rotulo matriculatis adscripta adimo, eo quod de eisdem agens in humanis meam complevi in omnibus voluntatem. Item volo & ordino quod si quæ alia de relictis ordinatis & dispositis in Testamento meo aut præsentibus codicillis per me perantea aut in futurum dum fuerò in humanis fuerint facta soluta vel etiam executa quod illa cessent post mortem meam, ac ea exnunc prout extunc adimo: & quod ad ipsa facienda solvenda vel exequenda Executores mei nullatenus onerentur seu etiam compellantur, sed quod in illis omnibus sint liberi quieti & prorsus absoluti. Fact. fuerunt prædict. Codicill. per me Wilhelmum Wykeham antedictum apud Southwaltham decimo die Mensis Januarii Anno ab Incarnatione Domini secundum cursum & computationem Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ Millesimo Quadringentesimo Tertio, Indicciene Duodecima, Pontificatus sanctissimi in Christo Patris & Domini nostri Domini Bonifacii divina providentia Papæ Noni Anno Quintodecimo, præsentibus discretis viris Dominis Wilhelmo Norton, Thoma Lavyngton, Johanne Knyght & Johanne Bush Presbyteris, testibus ad præmissa vocatis specialiter & rogatis. Et ego Wilhelmus Doune Clericus Exonien. Dioc. Publicus auctoritate apostolica Notarius prædict. Codicill. factioni testium rogacioni ac cæteris omnibus & singulis dum sic ut præmittimur per Reve-

* Forsan, prisonariis.

rendum Patrem Dominum Willielmum Wykeham Epiſcopum Wynton. ſub Anno, Indictione, Pont. menſe, die, & loco prædictis agebantur & fiebant, una cum prænominatis teſtibus præſens interfui, eaque ſic fieri vidi & audivi, ſcripſi & in hanc publicam formam redegi, ſignoque & nomine meis conſuetis ſignavi requiſitus in fidem & teſtimonium omnium præmiſſorum.

TENORE præſentium Nos Thomas, &c. notum facimus univerſis quod nono die Menſis Octobris Anno Domini Milleſimo Quadringenteſimo Quarto, in hoſpitio noſtro in Civitate Coventr. ſupraſcript. Teſtamentum bonæ memoriæ Wilhelmi Wykeham ultimi Wynt. Epiſcopi noſtræ Cantuarienſis Eccleſiæ dum vixit Suffraganei jam defuncti, una cum codicill. præſentibus annex. coram nobis exhibit. & legitime probat. approbavimus & infinuavimus ac pro veris Teſtamento & Codicillo & ultima voluntate dicti defuncti legitime juxta juris exigentiam pronunciavimus, nec non ad committend. in forma juris Executoribus in eodem Teſtamento nominatis adminiſtrationem omnium bonorum hujuſmodi Teſtamentum & Codicillum concernentium, dilectis in Chriſto filiis Magiſtro Johanni Maydenheth Vicario noſtro in ſpiritualibus & Cuſtodi ſpiritualitatis Civitatis & Dioc. Wynton. ſede epiſcopali ibidem vacante, ac fratri Thomæ Nevyle Priori Eccleſiæ Wyntun. commiſimus & diviſim commiſimus vices noſtras. In quorum teſtimonium ſigillum noſtrum præſentibus eſt appenſum. Dat. die, loco, menſe, & Anno Domini ſupradictis; & noſtræ tranſlationis anno nono.

THOMAS permiſſione divina, &c. dilectis in Chriſto filiis Magiſtro Johanni Maydenheth Vicario noſtro in ſpiritualibus & Cuſtodi ſpiritualitatis Civitat. & Dioc. Wynt. ſede epiſcopali ibidem vacante, ac fratri Thomæ Nevyle Priori Eccleſiæ Wynt. Salutem Gratiam & Benedictionem. Ad committendum in forma juris adminiſtrationem omnium bonorum quæ fuerint bonæ memoriæ Domini Wilhelmi Wykeham ultimi Wynt. Epiſcopi noſtræ Cant. Eccleſiæ dum vixit Suffraganei jam defuncti tempore mortis ſuæ ſuum concernent. Teſtamentum & ejus ultimam voluntatem

voluntatem coram nobis probat. ac per nos etiam approbat. ubicunque infra noſtram provinciam exiſtentium Executoribus in eodem Teſtamento nominatis ſi eam ſuſcipere & admittere voluerint præſtito primitus per eoſdem & eorum quemlibet juramento ad ſancta Dei Evangelia per eos corporaliter tacta, quod fidele inventarium bonorum hujuſmodi conficient, ac ipſa juxta ultimam prædicti defuncti voluntatem fideliter adminiſtrabunt, ac nobis de & ſupra adminiſtratione ſua hujuſmodi fidelem compotum ſive ratiocinium reddent, cum ſuper hoc congrue fuerint requiſiti, quodque acquietanciam vel acquietancias aliquibus debitoribus ipſius defuncti non conficient nec conficiet aliquis eorundem ſine conſenſu majoris & ſanioris partis Executorum ſuorum, nec aliqua de bonis prædictis ſibi appropriabunt vel uſurpabunt, ſeu ſic appropriabit vel uſurpabit aliquis de eiſdem, ſalvis legatis eis relictis & diſpoſitis per defunctum, & rationalibus expenſis circa adminiſtrationem hujuſmodi exponend. vobis communiter & diviſim tenore præſentium committimus vices noſtras et plenam poteſtatem. Et quod in præmiſſis feceritis nos ante feſtum Sancti Andreæ Apoſtoli prox. futur. debite certificetis per veſtras patentes litteras harum ſeriem & nomina & cognomina Executorum quibus hujuſmodi adminiſtrationem ut præmittitur commiſeritis continentes. Dat. in hoſpitio noſtro Coventriæ nono die Menſis Octobr: Anno Domini Milleſimo Quadringenteſimo Quarto. Et noſtræ tranſlationis anno nono.

N°. XVIII.

Addend. Not. ad Appendicem, N° XIII.

Henry the ſixth was preſent at Maſs in the Chapel of Winchester College: undoubtedly with a view of transferring the mode and formalities of Worſhip, uſed there, into his Chapel at Eton. I find him, though by Deputy, doing the ſame thing at New College Chapel with a view to his Chapel at Cambridge. The following Notice occurs in Rot. Comp. Coll. Nov. A. D. 1445. [23° Hen. VI.] "Pro cœna data Decano Sancti Pauli "Londoniæ, miſſo per Regem ad videndum & audiendum di- "vina Officia in Capella Collegii, & reportandum de prædictis "Domino Regi, VI. s. XI. d." Thomas Liſieux was Dean of St. Paul's. The King was now at Oſeney Abby; for this entry ſoon follows, viz. "Pro cariagio Librorum, Veſtimentorum, "Caparum, & aliorum Ornamentorum & Jocalium Collegii, ad "Ouſneiam, pro Miſſa ibi celebranda in præſentia Domini "Regis, & Reportatione eorundem, IV. s. VII. d."

Communicated by the Rev. Mr. Warton, Fellow of Trinity College, Oxford.

GENEALOGICA

alos & affines

Wykeham

liquis monumentis

habetur.

Stephan.

Richardus Reynwell

Alienora

Rogerus Göryng

Elizabetha

Johanna

Filiæ

QUI · MAL · Y · PENSE

e, f. Nicholaus

d. Elena Soro

e, f. Richardus d

e, f. Johannes W

e, d. Johannes W

d. Agnes Wodel

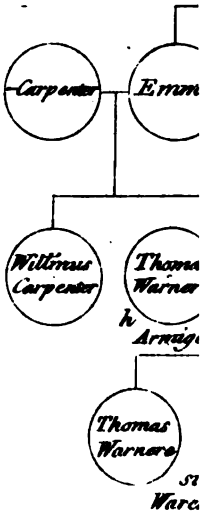
d. Johanna Ux

d. Domina Ag

d. Editha Uxor

b, d. Johannes B

d. Willmus R



a. Appendix Nº I.
b. Appendix Nº II.
c. Appendix Nº III.
d. Appendix Nº XVII.
e. Reg. Comp. & Registr. Coll.
f. Registr. Wikeham
g. Registr. Edyngdon
h. Lib. Evident. Eccl. Wynt.
i. Appendix Nº IV.

holaus Wyke
v Soror Nic
rdus de Wyk
nes Wykeha
nes Wykeha
Wodelok, &c
na Uxor Wi
na Agnes S
v Uxor Wil
nes Benet
us Rungel

I.
II.
III.
XVII.
istr. Coll. Nov.
am
don
d. Wynt. N°I.
IV.